

Subj: **RE: Congreve**  
 Date: 04/04/2006 6:02:09 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [qdbarchive@metrocast.net](mailto:qdbarchive@metrocast.net)  
 To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Original Message:

From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)  
 Date: Tue, 4 Apr 2006 17:58:43 EDT  
 To: QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET  
 Subject: Congreve

Hi!  
 Didn't have the Bowen connection. The Congreve Check Plate would seem to be unusual to use on NE Bank Note Co notes, except that Perkins, bested in the 1820 "investigation" of the Patent Stereotype Steel Plate by Sir Wm. Congreve, had long since departed the USA by the 1830s and was living in London.

-  
 Did you get my invitation to do a foreword for this book? Sent it about two weeks ago. If you would like to, I'd be super-honored!!!

-  
 In the new book I am illustrating the SECURITY BANK pic from your Ormsby broadside, but would still prefer to buy a clear photo copy or borrow and return the broadside, insured, etc.

About Bowen:

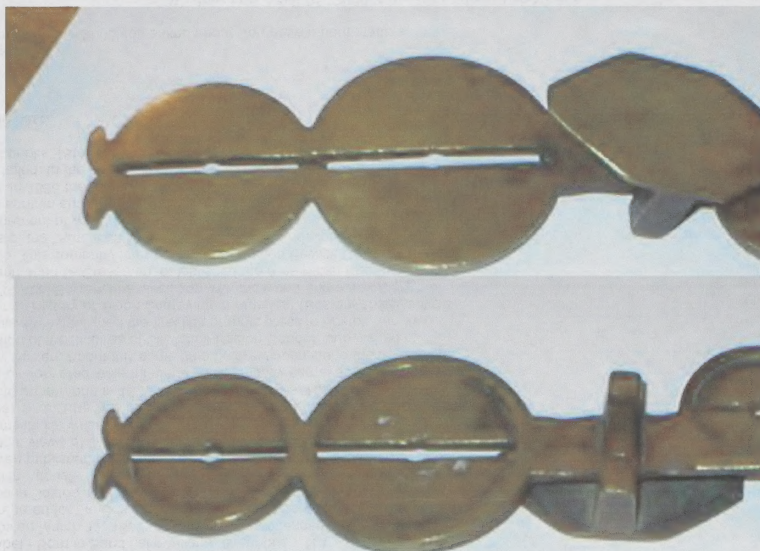
Bowen, Abel • Born in Sand Lake Village, Greenbush, N.Y., Dec. 23, 1790; died in Boston March 11, 1850, according to an extended sketch of Abel Bowen prepared for the Bostonian Society by the late W m. H. Whitmore and published in Boston in 1884. Bowen was engraving upon wood as early as 1811, and in August, 1812, he was in business as a printer in Boston. In 1816 Bowen published in Boston "The Naval Monument," illustrated by copper and woodcut views of 9-ft naval combats, a number of which were engraved by Bowen himself. He was certainly engraving upon copper in 1817 in both line and stipple; in 1821 he was in business with Alexander McKensie, a copperplate printer, and in 1825 he published Shaw's "History of Boston," illustrated by very creditable full-page views, mostly engraved upon copper, by Bowen. About this same time he drew upon stone the illustrations for an edition of the lectures of Sir Astley Paston Cooper, published by Pendleton, who established the first lithographic press in Boston. Mr. W. G. Linton, in his "History of Wood Engraving in America" (Boston, 1882), says that in 1834 Abel Bowen, in association with the wood-engravers Alonzo Hartwell and John C. Crossman, established the American Engraving and Printing Co. This company later became the Boston Bewick Co., the publishers of the "American Magazine," a publication devoted to the encouragement of wood-engraving in America. The two volumes of this magazine contain about 500 woodcuts, generally coarse and crude in execution. In 1836 their printing establishment was burned down and the company failed. In the course of his business career Abel Bowen published a number of books. {Stauffer, American Engravers, 1907}

-  
 Eric, all the best.

DAVE B

Dear Dave:  
 In E-Sylum of April 2, 2006 you asked about Congreve patent matters.

Wednesday, April 05, 2006 America Online: EricNumis



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SCA  
BLI**

**US**

Subj: **Congreve**  
 Date: 04/04/2006 4:58:43 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [EricNumis](mailto:EricNumis)  
 To: [QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET](mailto:QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET)

Dear Dave:

In E-Sylum of April 2, 2006 you asked about Congreve patent matters.

In my collection I have in a frame a set of 8 different colored Congreve Patent Check and Plate bank note size backs. They are several FIVES and others designs. They are identified as SPECIMENS OF CONGREVE ENGRAVING AND PRINTING by Abel Bowen, ` 1 Washington St., Boston. The information I have indicates that in 1833 Abel Bowen prepared backs for bank notes with cycloidal designs and some were prepared for the Bank of Norfolk in Roxbury, Mass, etc. by the New England Bank Note Company.

Do you have this item or know all about it already? Congreve as you know won an anti-counterfeiting contest in England.

My best.

Eric

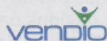




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Subj: **Re: Congreve**  
Date: 04/05/2006 9:12:48 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [qdbarchive@metrocast.net](mailto:qdbarchive@metrocast.net)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Hi!

I don't know if I mentioned it, but I am home with my right leg in a cast (purple and attractive). I slipped on Sunday. So, I did not go to Atlanta. I am downstairs with my laptop computer, which is wireless and does not seem to want to send attachments. Tomorrow I will make up a file, including Congreve and Perkins, and send it to you with pix. I thought that my chapter on Perkins had been sent to you in hard copy, but I might be wrong. If I did send it, check the index in the front. It goes into Perkins' life, etc.

The Congreve Patent Check Plate info (what little I have) is not in that, and I will send tomorrow with a pic of a note. In fact, I'll send all so you won't miss anything. Just search for "Congreve" when you get it.

All good wishes,  
DAVE B  
Original Message:

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From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 2006 20:42:20 EDT  
To: [qdbarchive@metrocast.net](mailto:qdbarchive@metrocast.net)  
Subject: Re: Congreve

Dave:

The Congreve matter is too important to leave unresolved. Please send me a copy of the New England Bank Note item with Congreve Patent on it and any data

on any New England Bank Note and Congreve relationship. There was so much competition and jealousy between English and American engravers that a group of three from Philadelphia (including Fairman) went to England in the early

1820s and stayed for several years. Whether they were involved there with Perkins I do not know but they had a separate firm name there not including Perkins.

This is all in Essay Proof Journal which you have. I believe Fairman was trained to some extent by Perkins before Perkins left. Maybe Congreve was trying

to get revenge for Americans outdoing him in England and sending his work to

America hoping for use there.

Eric

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mail2web - Check your email from the web at  
<http://mail2web.com/>

Subj: **Re: Congreve**  
Date: 04/06/2006 10:14:08 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: qdbarchive@metrocast.net  
To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,  
I had ANR send you the whole ms in 4 files. You can search for Congreve or anything else.

Since then I have added this, here sent non-formatted and probably with the footnotes dropped:

zzz

The Congreve Patent Check Plate  
The Congreve Patent Check Plate back is seen on certain bills with the Patent Stereotype Steel Plate face. The back is filled with the back filled with engraving in geometric designs. Eric P. Newman reports:  
Dear Dave: In E-Sylum of April 2, 2006 you asked about Congreve patent matters. In my collection I have in a frame a set of 8 different colored Congreve Patent Check and Plate bank note size backs. They are several FIVEs and other designs. They are identified as SPECIMENS OF CONGREVE ENGRAVING AND PRINTING by Abel Bowen, ' 1 Washington St., Boston.

{{Chap 16-Illus-6570a and b}}

\$2 note of the Calais (Maine) Bank, with Congreve Patent Check Plate back. Date faded, but circa 1835. This anti-counterfeiting plate was used on notes of only a few banks. Those reported date from the 1830s and are combined, as here, with a face from the Patent Stereotype Steel Plate of the New England Bank Note Co.

Per Gene Hessler, The Engraver's Line, Abel Bowen, born in Greenbush, New York in 1790, was engraving on wood as early as 1811. In 1816 he was a printer in Boston, soon taking up copperplate engraving. By 1821 he was a partner with copperplate printer Alexander McKensie, publisher of Shaw's History of Boston, with engraved illustrations by Bowen. At the time, "Bowen resided at 4 Washington St. in Boston, where, in 1833 he designed and engraved multi-colored, cycloidal backs for bank notes. Some of his designs were used by the New England Bank Note Co Features similar to those of Bowen's designs had been developed in England by William Congreve." For many years Bowen engraved copper plates for printing and on various metals for plaques, door signs, and labels. Several engravers who later achieved prominence worked under him, most notably Joseph Andrews.

zzz

Best wishes,  
DAVE

We'll keep on searching!  
Original Message:

From: EricNumis@aol.com  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 2006 20:42:20 EDT  
To: qdbarchive@metrocast.net  
Subject: Re: Congreve

Dave:  
The Congreve matter is too important to leave unresolved. Please send me a copy of the New England Bank Note item with Congreve Patent on it and any data on any New England Bank Note and Congreve relationship. There was so much

competition and jealousy between English and American engravers that a group of three from Philadelphia (including Fairman) went to England in the early 1820s and stayed for several years. Whether they were involved there with Perkins I do not know but they had a separate firm name there not including Perkins.

This is all in Essay Proof Journal which you have. I believe Fairman was trained to some extent by Perkins before Perkins left. Maybe Congreve was trying to get revenge for Americans outdoing him in England and sending his work to America hoping for use there.

Eric

mail2web - Check your email from the web at  
<http://mail2web.com/>



Subj: RE: Subtitle for your bnk note book, etc.  
 Date: 04/16/2006 1:57:39 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: qdbarchive@metrocast.net  
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

Here is an unformatted copy of the modified Congreve text, probably with footnotes lost too:

~~~~~

Source

Harris, Elizabeth M "Sir William Congreve and His Compound-Plate Printing," United States National Museum Bulletin 252, Paper 71 in Contributions from The Museum of History and Technology, Washington, DC, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1967.

~~~~~

The Congreve Patent Check Plate

The Congreve Patent Check Plate back was originated in England by Sir William Congreve, the same man who challenged Jacob Perkins in the latter's quest for Bank of England business in 1820 (see chapter 3). Similar to Perkins, Congreve had a particularly inventive turn of mind and developed innovations in many different fields, including for ships and bank note printing. From 1808 until 1827, the year before his death, he filed 18 British patents, most of which were criticized as trading on the work of others. He was often abrasive to his associates and was viewed by many as a curmudgeon.

About 1824, James Whiting and Robert Branston acquired the rights to the compound printing system from Congreve. The process was later used on labels and other printing in which counterfeiting might be a problem. Sometimes "Whiting Patentee" was imprinted. After Sir William's death in 1828, widow Congreve became Mrs. James Whiting.

Historian Elizabeth M. Harris described the procedure:

Congreve's compound plate was made by first cutting or stamping a design through a plate of fairly strong metal, such as brass or copper, to make a stencil. The stencil was then put on a flat surface and another more fusible metal was melted and poured over it. This formed a second detachable plate covering the back and filling the holes of the first.

Next the face of the entire plate was engraved with lettering and mechanical patterns in a continuous design over both metals. Commonly the stamped holes were in wormlike shapes...or roughly circular. The linear engraving on the surface was not governed by the pattern of the stencil; in both...the engraving formed a more or less independent design laid over the two colors.

For printing, the two interlocked plates were separated, inked in different colors, fitted together again and printed at one pull. A special machine was built to ink and print the plates. In his patent specification Congreve claimed that other materials such as wood or ivory could be used as well as metal, and that three, four, or more colors could be combined and printed by the same machine with a slight adjustment.

{{Chap 16-Illus-6540}}

Sir William Congreve (1772-1828). (Portrait by James Lonsdale, National Portrait Gallery, London)

The Congreve Patent Check Plate back is seen on certain American bills with the Patent Stereotype Steel Plate face, issued by the New England Bank Note Company, formed in 1833 and combining the Perkins interests. The back is filled with the back filled with engraving in geometric designs. Eric P.

Sunday, April 16, 2006 America Online: EricNumis

Newman reports:

In my collection I have in a frame a set of 8 different colored Congreve Patent Check and Plate bank note size backs. They are several FIVES and other designs. They are identified as SPECIMENS OF CONGREVE ENGRAVING AND PRINTING by Abel Bowen, 1 Washington St., Boston.

{{Chap 16-Illus-6570a and b}}

\$3 note of the Duxbury (Massachusetts) Bank, with Congreve Patent Check Plate back, circa 1835. This anti-counterfeiting plate was used on notes of only a few banks. Those reported date from the 1830s and are combined, as here, with a face from the Patent Stereotype Steel Plate of the New England Bank Note Co.

The Duxbury Bank was active from October 1, 1833, until September 1, 1846. It was headquartered on Washington Street at the Powder Point junction. Many loans were made to those engaged in the maritime trade.

{{Chap 16-Illus-6575a and b}}

\$2 note of the Calais (Maine) Bank, 1834, with a two-colored Congreve Patent Check Plate back.

The Calais Bank was founded in 1831 with a set capital of \$50,000. It was located in the town of the same name, a seaport near the border with Canada. By 1848 it was one of only two banks in the state that had not joined the Suffolk Bank system for redeeming its currency. Its bills mostly circulated regionally in Washington County, where they were the main form of paper used in commerce. They were seldom taken out of the district, for they were valued at a deep discount elsewhere. On May 30, 1865, it converted to become the Calais National Bank, charter 1425. (See chapter 19 for an account of the bank in the Civil War)

Per Gene Hessler, The Engraver's Line, Abel Bowen, born in Greenbush, New York in 1790, was engraving on wood as early as 1811. In 1816 he was a printer in Boston, soon taking up copperplate engraving. By 1821 he was a partner with copperplate printer Alexander McKensie, publisher of Shaw's History of Boston, with engraved illustrations by Bowen. At the time, "Bowen resided at 4 Washington St. in Boston, where, in 1833 he designed and engraved multi-colored, cycloidal backs for bank notes. Some of his designs were used by the New England Bank Note Co Features similar to those of Bowen's designs had been developed in England by William Congreve." For many years Bowen engraved copper plates for printing and on various metals for plaques, door signs, and labels. Several engravers who later achieved prominence worked under him, most notably Joseph Andrews.

ssssssssss

Original Message:

From: EricNumis@aol.com  
Date: Sun, 16 Apr 2006 14:29:59 EDT  
To: QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET  
Subject: Subtitle for your bnk note book, etc.

Dear Dave:

In a recent draft of your bank note book you have a subtitle reading: "The Engraving, Printing, and Distribution of Bank Notes"

The better word to use is "Circulation".

I would not dare comment on the second comma as that now is an optional matter I believe.

In the third line of your write up of me you use "hobby". I suggest you use

Sunday, April 16, 2006 America Online: EricNumis

"discipline".

Your titular friend      Eric

---

mail2web - Check your email from the web at  
<http://mail2web.com/> .



Wednesday, April 19, 2006 America Online: EricNumis

Subj: **Connecticut bank notes.**  
 Date: 04/19/2006 2:59:40 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: **EricNumis**  
 To: **Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com**

*John Ferreri*  
 http://mail.yahoo.com

Do You Yahoo?  
 Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around

Dear John:

When Q. David sent me a copy of a message to you about Congreve it made me realize that we have not been in contact for ages. It is a delight to have an excuse to contact you.

I am undertaking to write a 5th edition of my *The Early Paper Money of America* and you helped long ago on prior editions. I only go up to the year 1800 and wonder if you have some new data or improved images or corrections. If so would you be nice enough to let me know. I would appreciate it.

Another request from you is if you could send me from your collection images of any \$3 and \$5 of the Bank of Bridgeport, Connecticut with a view of Bridgeport on them. As a master collector of bank notes I assume you have them.

Both of us have enjoyed collecting and gathering information on numismatics and can hardly adjust to what is going on today but we have been fortunate to have participated in such a wonderful discipline.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thrive.

Eric

Eric P. Newman 6450 Cecil Ave. St. Louis MO 63105

Tel: 314 727 0850 Fax: 314 727 0820

> Dear John:  
 > When Q. David sent me a copy of a message to you  
 > about Congreve it made me  
 > realize that we have not been in contact for ages.  
 > It is a delight to have an  
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 > I am undertaking to write a 5th edition of my *The  
 > Early Paper Money of  
 > America* and you helped long ago on prior editions. I  
 > only go up to the year 1800  
 > and wonder if you have some new data or improved  
 > images or corrections. If so  
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 > appreciate it.  
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 > of any \$3 and \$5 of the Bank of Bridgeport,  
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 > mation on numismatics  
 > and can hardly adjust to what is going on today but we have  
 > been fortunate to have participated in such a wonderful  
 > discipline.  
 > I look forward to hearing from you. Thrive.

— EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

John

Best regards,

What a pleasant surprise! It is so nice to hear from  
 you again. I will try to help you with both requests.  
 It may take a few days as my long work week-end is  
 now coming up. Hopefully just after the weekend I  
 should be able to get to it.

Hello Eric,

Subj: **Re: Connecticut bank notes.**  
 Date: 04/19/2006 3:24:22 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: **johnnybanknote@yahoo.com**  
 To: **EricNumis@aol.com, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com**

Wednesday, April 19, 2006 America Online: EricNumis



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April 20, 2006

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric,

Here is a copy for you to keep.

Sincerely yours,

*Q. David Bowers*  
Q. David Bowers

QDB/sn

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Subj: **Re: Connecticut bank notes.**  
 Date: 04/23/2006 5:09:10 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
 To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

The photocopies will go out to you monday.  
 There weren't many, perhaps a half dozen plus the Bridgeport images. But, I do think there may be 2 or 3 you hadn't received from me before (25 years ago)?

Time does fly when you are having fun! No doubt about that. In my next life I will try to get an earlier start on this collecting thing. As Dave mentioned, "What a wonderful thing these computers are"! One can cover so much more ground e-mailing. Of course he, and I am sure you, use it much more than I. It has only been 2 years since I even owned one. The one we have at work is dedicated only to the business and was until 2 years ago programed only for our work. No windows, Xenix system. Very straight forward for work and easy to use.

Regards,  
 John Ferreri

— [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com) wrote:

> Dear John:  
 > When Q. David sent me a copy of a message to you  
 > about Congreve it made me  
 > realize that we have not been in contact for ages.  
 > It is a delight to have an  
 > excuse to contact you.  
 > I am undertaking to write a 5th edition of my The  
 > Early Paper Money of  
 > America and you helped long ago on prior editions. I  
 > only go up to the year 1800  
 > and wonder if you have some new data or improved  
 > images or corrections. If so  
 > would you be nice enough to let me know. I would  
 > appreciate it.  
 > Another request from you is if you could send me  
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 > Both of us have enjoyed collecting and gathering  
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 > for a long time and can hardly adjust to what is  
 > going on today but we have  
 > been fortunate to have participated in such a  
 > wonderful discipline.  
 > I look forward to hearing from you. Thrive.  
 > Eric  
 > Eric P. Newman 6450 Cecil Ave. St. Louis MO 63105  
 > Tel: 314 727 0850 Fax: 314 727 0820  
 >

Sunday, April 23, 2006 America Online: [EricNumis](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)



Subj: **Congreve**  
Date: 04/26/2006 1:55:03 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [EricNumis](#)  
To: [QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET](mailto:QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET)

Dave:

Thank you for sending me the Smithsonian article about Congreve. I was totally unaware of it. Congreve must have been disgusted with losing out in England and sent some of his plates to Bowen in Boston. Bowen's imprints are usually in two colors with one in black only and one in red only. The colors used are black, red, gray, purple and green. They all have Congreve's name of them. It is not clear to me why both the words CHECK and PLATE are on some of them. What does this mean? Eric

Subj: **RE: Congreve**  
Date: 04/26/2006 2:50:48 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [qdbarchive@metrocast.net](mailto:qdbarchive@metrocast.net)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Hi!  
I am not quite sure. CHECK, CHECK PLATE, and similar inscriptions in large letters on a colored background are seen on a bunch of notes issued in New England, mostly by N.E. Bank Note Co. (50% owned by RWH&E). These do not usually mention any name.

I can see that anti-counterfeiting devices could be a great subject for an EPN AJN monograph (if they do such things anymore; besides, it would need to be in color!)

-  
Best wishes,  
Dave B

Original Message:

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From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)  
Date: Wed, 26 Apr 2006 14:55:03 EDT  
To: [QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET](mailto:QDBARCHIVE@METROCAST.NET)  
Subject: Congreve

Dave:  
Thank you for sending me the Smithsonian article about Congreve. I was totally unaware of it.  
Congreve must have been disgusted with losing out in England and sent some of his plates to Bowen in Boston. Bowen's imprints are usually in two colors with one in black only and one in red only. The colors used are black, red, gray, purple and green. They all have Congreve's name of them. It is not clear to me why both the words CHECK and PLATE are on some of them. What does this mean?  
Eric

---

mail2web - Check your email from the web at  
<http://mail2web.com/>

Subj: **Appreciation**  
Date: 05/01/2006 3:49:51 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John:

I had relatives staying at our house for a few days and they were so delightful I had to neglect writing you. How is that for an excuse?

Your letter and enclosure were extremely helpful and I really am thankful for your cooperation. We are true collectors and there are not many of us around. Perhaps the Schingoethes took everything choice away from many people in your favorite field and one of mine. I probably mess around in too many numismatic fields.

A strange situation exists on one of your 1794 Union Bank. It is altered from Four pence to one pence at the face top. Can you explain that to me? What a dumb crook.

I am delighted to have an image of the Norwich Bank 1799 issue.

The \$10 Mass Bank counterfeit is a better image than I have used previously.

The Norwich \$1 of 1796 is Doolittle engraved according to your notation and what is your source of that data? Is it engraved in the left border as I cannot discern the circular border insignia in the photocopy?

Is it possible that you might have a duplicate of the \$5 Bridgeport Bank for trade or sale to me?

It is surprising that we have been out of touch for so many years and have so much in common interests. I do not remember whether we have ever met. I have collected Hodges and other bank note reporters and detectors. Do you do that? I collect early almanacs with bank note comments.

I have tried to add a bit to my banknote collection at the Smythe sales but the estimates and hammer prices astound me. I have no idea who these many other buyers are.

If I can do anything for you at anytime please feel free to call on me. Thank you for your wonderful help. My  
best. Eric



Subj: **Re: Appreciation**  
Date: 05/02/2006 10:11:37 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

I'm glad that the photocopies were of some help to you. Yes, the 1794 Union Bank (valued lowered) note has been one of my favorites for many years. I wonder what was going through his/her head that enticed him to lower the value of the note? He probably knew that someday you and I would be scratching our heads in disbelief!

Re: the "Doolittle" note. I probably was a little too presumptuous in assuming Doolittle was the master of that note. However I compared it to another from the same bank but a \$5.00 denomination of 1805 which is probably a counterfeit and it has some similar devices such as the diamond with the numeral 1 within and the circular devices on the left panel. These are not identical with each note but seem close enough to indicate common origin. The imprint on the other note is, Doolittle, S C. I can find no trace of an imprint on the note I copied for you. Some of the right side however, is missing. Doolittle, quite often cosied his imprint in unusual places but usually Reed and Rollinson did not. This is the best case I can make for you.

I will be on the lookout for a \$5.00 Bridgeport for you. I don't have any duplicates but for rare occasions when I buy a group to obtain one or two notes. Right now I don't have perhaps more than 5-6 duplicate notes. One however, is an uncut double sheet of Connecticut Pence notes I was able to buy about a year or two ago.

You asked if we ever met. I vaguely picture us meeting, probably at some convention. It was only for a second or two and probably before we first corresponded. Could it have been at an ANA in New York?

Years ago Roy Pennell and George Wait gave me an armful of photocopied bank note reporters as I was going to do the book on Connecticut Obsoletes. I have added a few other originals but nothing to brag about. Well, here it is 30 years later and I really haven't started yet. I always admired people who could find time to layout and put together a publication. I just have not had the time. Perhaps after I retire in a couple of years... I actually spend too much time doing club activities. I was SPMC treasurer for 6 years, and have always been active as the program director for our local club. I have also put on 33 annual coin shows for our club. I am working on #34 right now. These things take up a lot of spare time. We have a fairly good size show of 75 tables once a

year and attract dealers from as far as Texas,  
Florida, Missouri and all the east coast.

Well, if there is anything else I can help you with  
please feel at home to ask.

Best regards,  
John

— EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
> I had relatives staying at our house for a few days  
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> for an excuse?  
> Your letter and enclosure was extremely helpful and I  
> really am thankful for  
> your cooperation. We are true collectors and there  
> are not many of us around.  
> Perhaps the Schingoethes took everything choice away  
> from many people in your  
> favorite field and one of mine. I probably mess  
> around in too many numismatic  
> fields.  
> A strange situation exists on one of your 1794 Union  
> Bank. It is altered  
> from Four pence to one pence at the face top. Can  
> you explain that to me? What a

---

Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
 Date: 05/04/2006 10:43:53 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 To: EricNumis@aol.com, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Eric,

It is intriguing to me. And, I am sure I could find a half dozen or so for you. It will take a week or two as work still at times gets in the way of play.

I do limit myself to New England but also allow myself to collect interesting notes of other states. These would be notes with historical vignettes or some peculiarity I seem to admire. Was there something particular you were looking for?

I will be in touch. Please feel free to write anytime.

John

-- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
 > Your further data is most interesting and leads me  
 > to go on with inquiries  
 > if you enjoy it.  
 > First I must ask you if your bank note field is  
 > limited to New England or to  
 > other areas as well, I have no geographical  
 > limitation.  
 > Second I want to ask you about something Dave Bowers  
 > and I have been  
 > corresponding about. That is the use of William  
 > Congreve's English patent bank note  
 > plates in America. Congreve lost out to Perkins and  
 > others in acceptance in  
 > England and seems to have sent some of his back  
 > plates to New England Bank  
 > Note Company which seems to have used them on a few  
 > issues. Bank of Calais in  
 > Maine and Duxbury Bank in Massachusetts were  
 > mentioned by Dave as having them.  
 > These plates probably have the word PLATE or CHECK  
 > or CONGREVE'S PATENT on  
 > them. There may be others. Would you be kind enough  
 > to send me images of any  
 > you have? I have none of those two issuers but I  
 > have a group of eight backs  
 > separately printed by Bowen in Boston in two colors.  
 > You may be aware of or  
 > find more. Congreve might have sent some of his  
 > plates to US in frustration  
 > because of his American competition.  
 > If this is not of intriguing to you please skip it.  
 > Eric  
 >

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 05/04/2006 5:11:06 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John:

Your further data is most interesting and leads me to go on with inquiries if you enjoy it. First I must ask you if your bank note field is limited to New England or to other areas as well, I have no geographical limitation.

Second I want to ask you about something Dave Bowers and I have been corresponding about. That is the use of William Congreve's English patent bank note plates in America. Congreve lost out to Perkins and others in acceptance in England and seems to have sent some of his back plates to New England Bank Note Company which seems to have used them on a few issues. Bank of Calais in Maine and Duxbury Bank in Massachusetts were mentioned by Dave as having them. These plates probably have the word PLATE or CHECK or CONGREVE'S PATENT on them. There may be others. Would you be kind enough to send me images of any you have? I have none of those two issuers but I have a group of eight backs separately printed by Bowen in Boston in two colors. You may be aware of or find more. Congreve might have sent some of his plates to US in frustration because of his American competition.

If this is not of intriguing to you please skip it. Eric



Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
 Date: 05/13/2006 5:32:49 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 To: EricNumis@aol.com, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Eric,

I am sending copies of the notes I could get my hands on today. Some obviously are not Congreve but pleasant to look at in any case. As more come up, I will do the same.

No need to photocopy the frame, I remember it or one like it when George Wait offered to sell it to me.

I am including a page of the Oct. 2004 Shingothe Catalogue showing a \$5.00 B-port that was up for bid at that time. It is different than the copy of the note I sent you previously but similar to other denomination of the same series.

Regards,  
 John

--- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
 > I sincerely appreciate your cooperation on the  
 > Congreve inquiry, but I do  
 > not wish to or have you burden yourself with a  
 > complex task. It would be  
 > interesting to have you photocopy for me a couple of  
 > the items you already found  
 > but please stop there for the present.  
 > I do not think I can make a photocopy of my frame of  
 > eight Congreve backs  
 > for you because they are inset in an old cardboard  
 > mount and framed with a  
 > glass so their distance from the front of the mount  
 > is substantial. You may be  
 > familiar with or already have those backs but if  
 > you want a photocopy I will  
 > try.  
 > I am much more interested in the \$5 Bank of  
 > Bridgeport note you may be able  
 > to find for me with the city view. Has this portion  
 > of the Shingoethe  
 > collection been offered as yet?  
 > If there is anything I can do for you please do not  
 > hesitate to ask.  
 > Eric  
 > Thanks again for being so helpful.  
 >  
 >  
 >

---

Do You Yahoo!?

Sunday, May 14, 2006 America Online: EricNumis



Print - Close Window

**Date:** Sat, 13 May 2006 15:32:45 -0700 (PDT)  
**From:** "C.John Ferreri" <johnnybanknote@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: (no subject)  
**To:** EricNumis@aol.com, "John Ferreri MNS CCNE" <johnnybanknote@yahoo.com>

Dear Eric,

I am sending copies of the notes I could get my hands on today. Some obviously are not Congreve but pleasant to look at in any case. As more come up, I will do the same.

No need to photocopy the frame, I remember it or one like it when George Wait offered to sell it to me.

I am including a page of the Oct. 2004 Shingothe Catalogue showing a \$5.00 B-port that was up for bid at that time. It is different than the copy of the note I sent you previously but similar to other denomination of the same series.

Regards,  
John

--- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
> I sincerely appreciate your cooperation on the  
> Congreve inquiry, but I do  
> not wish to or have you burden yourself with a  
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> interesting to have you photocopy for me a couple of  
> the items you already found  
> but please stop there for the present.  
> I do not think I can make a photocopy of my frame of  
> eight Congreve backs  
> for you because they are inset in an old cardboard  
> mount and framed with a  
> glass so their distance from the front of the mount  
> is substantial. You may be  
> familiar with or already have those backs but if  
> you want a photocopy I will  
> try.  
> I am much more interested in the \$5 Bank of  
> Bridgeport note you may be able  
> to find for me with the city view. Has this portion  
> of the Shingoethe  
> collection been offered as yet?  
> If there is anything I can do for you please do not  
> hesitate to ask.  
> Eric  
> Thanks again for being so helpful.  
>  
>

Subj: (no subject)  
 Date: 05/20/2006 5:26:20 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: EricNumis  
 To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John:

The amazing packet of colored images of some of your bank notes is most exciting. I thank you and have been studying them intensely. Not only have I learned much from them but they have raised other queries. What a pleasure to have them indicate some important solutions. I believe I now understand what the words CHECK and PLATE were used for. The "plate" is a description of the patented printing plate invention. The word "check" goes with it to mean that the plate should be used to check whether the bank note printed from that plate is a counterfeit. Congreve apparently started in England with "Patent Congreve Check Plate" and then the various words were sometimes eliminated and/or shifted. Perkins used the word "stereotype" and did not put his name in. Who was first to do what I do not know, but Perkins was called to England because England was unhappy with Congreve.

Congreve had problems in England and in due course must have sent the examples of his back plates to Boston for use and the New England Bank Note Company used them because the plates did not have to be changed for use on the American bank note backs. The plates were probably offered very reasonably because Congreve was unsuccessful in having them accepted in England.

I have studied the bank note company(s) on the face of the notes to see what Perkins or other face plates were used with the Congreve backs. Perkins almost always had "Patent Stereotype Steel Plate" put on his faces and often "Steel Stereotype Check Plate" on the back adding the word Patent separately. The word "stereotype" was never used by Congreve. You probably know all this already.

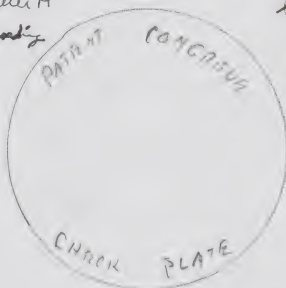
The Naumkeag Bank in Massachusetts has a bank note company neither I nor Haxby seem to have heard of ----- Terry ?????? & Co Boston & Prov. What is the full name?

Have you any Perkins notes which have been folded along the back separations to check whether the notes were counterfeit or were any counterfeit Perkins notes ever attempted? If you have any observations which I have probably missed please comment.

Thanks again for your cooperation. My best Eric



This face is plate letter A  
and there is a B ~~card~~  
to John Emari  
It plate letter  
on back



~~face~~ "Patent Stereotype Steel Plate"  
on lower right side of face  
~~face~~

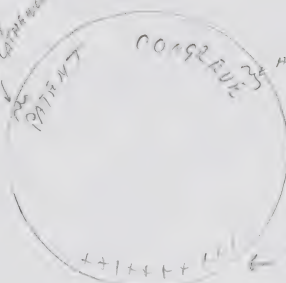
Ferris says there is perhaps  
"Designed by Emerson & by Abel Boman"  
on right down back  
"I cannot see it" ~~yes~~

It is on the other letter  
back plate ~~not~~ on  
this one,





HIDDEN BY  
BROWN LATHWORK



HIDDEN BY BROWN LATHWORK

+++++

QANT MORE THAN WORDS CAN,  
RANT IN, "CLARK PLAYS" ?

Patent Stereotype Steel Plate



Patent Slawtype Steel Plate





Plate ~~Letter~~ C

Patent Stereotype Steel Plate



"Patent Congress  
Steel Plate"

(in reality)

Eight turtles in red  
Eight rocking horses in red

Lower right <sup>of</sup> which ~~is~~ in border  
is one horizontal line in ~~white~~ white  
with brown background

DESIGNED AND ENGRAVED BY ABEL BOWEN  
BOSTON



New England Bank Note Co.

Patent Stereotype Block Plate





This Building is part of the Springfield Arsenal Ground  
 The "Water Shop", about a mile from the main Arsenal -



Patent Stereotype Steel Plate

CHECK PLATE

CHECK LETTER ~~D~~

STEEL STEREO TYPE ~~STEEL~~ CHECK PLATE

PATENT



JUST AN INTERESTING RELEASE

Redeemed May 3, 1884

Bad color on copying machine  
is on both face and back.



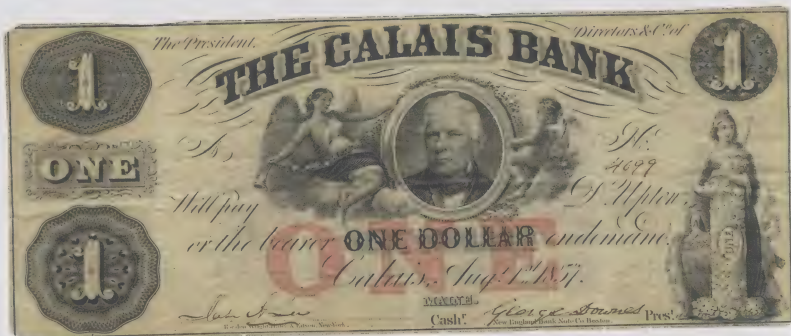
TERRY

+ CO BOSTON + PROV

CHECK







THE INK CARTRIDGE WAS BEGINNING TO GIVE OUT. 5

Randall Wright Hatch & Esen, New York

New England Bank Note Co. Boston



New England Bank Note Co.

Patent Stereotype Steel Plate

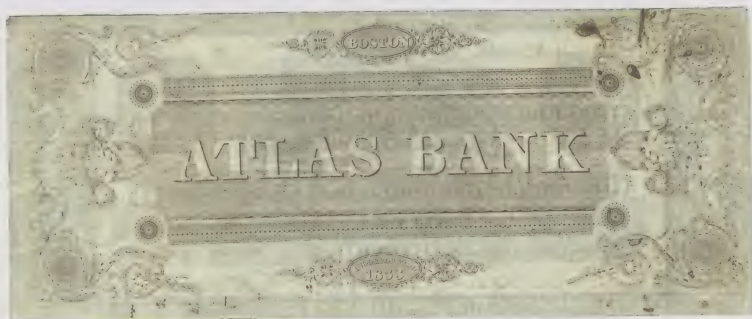
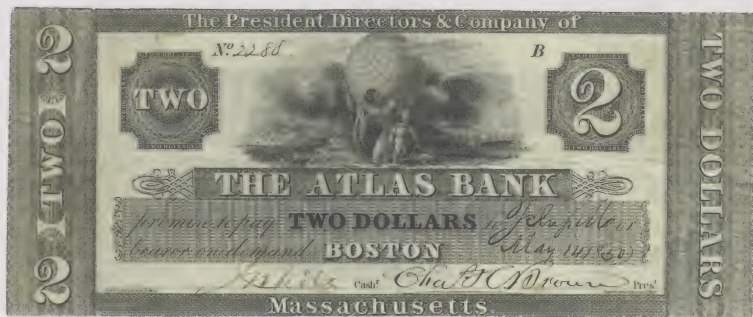
Congrese  
CHE Patent CK  
Plate



*New England Bank Note Co. Boston*

CHECK





New England Bank Note Co

Patent Stereotype Steel Plate



B-  
PORT



Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
 Date: 05/20/2006 9:43:35 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
 To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com), [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Hello Eric,

I'm glad you found the photocopies useful. The full name of the banknote company is Terry, Pelton & Co. Boston and Providence. Haxby lists it as TP. Haxby used quite a few of my notes for plate impressions. He actually took over 1700 photographs to make up part of his data base. So, many of the New England notes in his volumes are from pictures of my notes.

I wonder if Congreve had a hard time marketing his plates in England because of a deficiency of quality or effectiveness or could it have been only a personality conflict of sorts? His product seems to me to be technically superior to Perkin's S.S.C.P.'s. Maybe it was more expensive than Perkin's. Could it be possible that the exchange rate made it better for him to market it here? Are there Perkins notes in England?

As I continue to search for more impressions in my collection I am concluding that the vast majority of Congreve's plates were used for Massachusetts banknotes. I haven't found any others, so far, from other New England States. Then again not one Perkins plate note front or back has been found on a Connecticut, or Vermont note either. I think I have only one Perkins note from R.I. but haven't located it yet.

I don't recall ever seeing a note, obviously folded for cftf. detection nor have I ever seen an obvious counterfeit S.S.C.P. note. However, Perkins notes were readily altered and duplicated. Have you ever seen a counterfeit Congreve plate?

Regarding the use of Perkins plates, front and back; I find that the great majority of notes using Perkins front plates lack the back plate. Bank economy I guess, or maybe he hadn't developed the back plate until later on in his career.

Lastly, if William Congreve died in 1828, just who was marketing these plates in the 1830's?

Regards,

John

— EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
 > The amazing packet of colored images of some of your  
 > bank notes is most

Sunday, May 21, 2006 America Online: EricNumis

> exciting. I thank you and have been studying them  
 > intensely. Not only have I  
 > learned much from them but they have raised other  
 > queries. What a pleasure to  
 > have them indicate some important solutions.  
 > I believe I now understand what the words CHECK and  
 > PLATE were used for. The  
 > "plate" is a description of the patented printing  
 > plate invention. The word  
 > "check" goes with it to mean that the plate should  
 > be used to check whether  
 > the bank note printed from that plate is a  
 > counterfeit. Congreve apparently  
 > started in England with "Patent Congreve Check  
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 > words were sometimes eliminated and/or shifted.  
 > Perkins used the word  
 > "stereotype" and did not put his name in. Who was  
 > first to do what I do not know, but  
 > Perkins was called to England because England was  
 > unhappy with Congreve.  
 > Congreve had problems in England and in due course  
 > must have sent the  
 > examples of his back plates to Boston for use and  
 > the New England Bank Note Company  
 > used them because the plates did not have to be  
 > changed for use on the  
 > American bank note backs. The plates were probably  
 > offered very reasonably because  
 > Congreve was unsuccessful in having them accepted in  
 > England.  
 > I have studied the bank note company(s) on the face  
 > of the notes to see what  
 > Perkins or other face plates were used with the  
 > Congreve backs. Perkins  
 > almost always had "Patent Stereotype Steel Plate"  
 > put on his faces and often  
 > "Steel Stereotype Check Plate" on the back adding  
 > the word Patent separately. The  
 > word "stereotype" was never used by Congreve. You  
 > probably know all this  
 > already.  
 > The Naumkeag Bank in Massachusetts has a bank note  
 > company neither I nor  
 > Haxby seem to have heard of ----- Terry ?????? &  
 > Co Boston & Prov. What is the  
 > full name?  
 > Have you any Perkins notes which have been folded  
 > along the back separations  
 > to check whether the notes were counterfeit or were  
 > any counterfeit Perkins  
 > notes ever attempted?  
 > If you have any observations which I have probably  
 > missed please comment.  
 > Thanks again for your cooperation. My best  
 > Eric  
 >

---

Do You Yahoo!?



Subj: **Answer on Congreve and Perkins**  
Date: 05/22/2006 11:53:01 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John:

I am going to New York to a grandson's wedding and wanted to give you a quick reply to your message of 5/20/06.

There are no Perkins bank notes made in England so far as I know because he ran into politics and fierce competition.

Congreve was feisty and his process was turned down in England according to a Smithsonian paper #71 by Elizabeth M. Harris entitled "Sir William Congreve and his Compound - Plate Printing". Congreve wrote and published a paper about how great his process was. He turned over his patent rights to the firm of Whiting and Branston about 1824. Branston died in 1827. Congreve died as you indicated in 1828 and his widow married Whiting. So you can see why the matter carried on after Congreve's death and how America was solicited for business. I have never seen a Congreve counterfeit.

Your comment on the Perkins front plate without his back plate makes it clear to me that his front plate with its lines of multiple tiny written denominations all over much of the note was his use of his siderography invention to prevent counterfeiting and the back was therefore not as important. His back design which you point out seems to come later was primarily a cut up and spacing of a complex plate and only partially a reliance on siderography. I am certainly glad to realize that and thank you for pointing out the features as I did not realize the situation.

Thanks for being so helpful.

Eric

Subj: **Able Bowen of Boston**  
Date: 12/30/2006 10:11:34 PM Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

Happy New Year! I have just noticed something on the reverse of the \$1.00 Nahant Bank note with the Congreve Check Plate. Written but hardly noticable in the lower right quadrant, right in the design on the reverse is the endorsement: Designed and Engraved by (what seems to be) Able Bowen.

Have you noticed this on any of you notes or scans? It only appears on the dollar denomination from the Nahant Bank. It is not on the Duxbury note and I haven't looked at the others yet. It is very hard to see on my note because of the circulation. My other notes are probably even more circulated than this one and if there is an endorsement it won't be easy to notice.

Was that last set of patent drawings of any value to you or was it of the wrong engraving machine?

I hope you had a pleasant Christmas and have not been too affected by the snows I hear the Mid-West has had. We have not had any snow here at all.

Regards,  
John

---

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around  
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Subj: **Re: Able Bowen of Boston**  
Date: 12/31/2006 4:51:03 PM Central Standard Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John:

Thank you for the New Year greeting. I hope you and yours have an exciting future in this crazy world. The opening of my museum has consumed virtually all of my time.

I am totally unable to find any trace of the engraving text you describe as being on the back of the Nahant \$1 image which you sent. Perhaps you can specify more clearly exactly where it is on the lower right quadrant. Do you think an enlargement of the area on your note may produce further clarity?

I cannot visit my notes for some days so I will not be able to add to your fascinating discovery. I will try to look for anything on my specimen backs which are in a frame at the bank.

As to the patent drawings which you sent me I recently turned them over to an architect friend to make an image for you in full size. I made some in sections but they are not good enough. The drawings are very complex and I hope to have a mechanical engineer help to explain what is there. I read what Bowers said about the patents in his new book. Whether a stencil system was used and exactly how the ink was so carefully applied is what we need to know.

I still plan to send you other text on the matter which I will locate in some borrowed books.

Am I glad I am not involved in the various current numismatic controversies.

Eric

Subj: **Re: Able Bowen of Boston**  
Date: 12/31/2006 5:38:29 PM Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

It indeed is hard to find or I would have noticed it long ago. I only found it now because there was an enlargement of a similar bill being offered on eBay this week and I could see the endorsement or imprint. Since my earlier e-mail to you I have found one other note, the Fall River Bank of Troy, Mass. has the same imprint. You have a copy of the front and back of this note also.

I will try to forward to you, another e-mail of the note I saw on eBay. When you receive it scroll down to the enlargements and you should be able to see the imprint: Designed and Engraved by Able Bowen, Boston. If this doesn't work I can always scan my Fall River note again for you.

The imprint will appear in the lower right quadrant and fairly close but still above the boarder and somewhat consealed within the engraving itself.

This is exciting!

Regards,  
John

P.S. I have been reading about the library. I am sure something like that is bound to keep one busy.

--- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:  
> Thank you for the New Year greeting. I hope you and  
> yours have an exciting  
> future in this crazy world. The opening of my museum  
> has consumed virtually all  
> of my time.  
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Monday, January 01, 2007 America Online: EricNumis



- > specify more clearly exactly where it is on the
- > lower right quadrant. Do you think
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- > further clarity?
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- > are very complex and I hope to
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- > Am I glad I am not involved in the various current
- > numismatic controversies.
- >
- > Eric
- >

---

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around  
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Subj: **Abel Bowen**  
Date: 1/2/2007 3:29:53 PM Central Standard Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: [Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Dear John:

My eye balls have fallen out of my head but I have added substantially to your discovery. I found my Congreve specimen frame of eight backs at home expecting them to have been taken to a bank vault.

I immediately looked to see if they had the text you found DESIGNED AND ENGRAVED BY ABEL BOWEN , BOSTON All except the first one did and that one had nothing there.

Then on the same line I looked to the left and WOW. The line began at the left end of the back of the note and was much harder to read because it consisted of white slanting letters which were thinner than the letters on the right. The thin letter section read to the best of my ability to read it ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS OF THE YEAR 1833 (perhps 1835) BY ABEL BOWEN IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DIST CT OF MASSACHUSETTS. This was on the same line as the text you found.

I was thrilled because this proved he made the trial plates and legitimately filed his action of record.

Now the ball is in your court and I hope you are able and willing to try to find out what the District Court of Massachusetts has on file in their records. The original Bowen filing could be there. The Federal District Court (not a State Court) was referred to but thereafter they might have been put elsewhere.

Perhaps you can find the same new text on your Nahant or Fall River notes. Cooperative research always turns up wonderful surprises.

Eric

Subj: **Re: Abel Bowen**  
Date: 1/2/2007 10:20:42 PM Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

Nice discovery! Good work! Now to get this down in black and white before we both go blind.

Starting with the \$1.00 Nahant.....design: one oval on each side of circle, fair amount of selvage above. No imprint evident near bottom.

\$10.00 Nahant....design: one large oval on each side of circle as above. Imprint in the lower right border just above space between the notes,(if I were to have a sheet). Only a few letters of the original imprint visible. No other statement found. The line this is on will pass directly under the circle and is part of the border.

\$20.00 Nahant....design: Center circle flanked by smaller circles flanked by smaller ovals  
Imprint-"Designed and Engraved", etc in lower right quadrant. No other statement found.

\$5.00 Fall River.....design: same as above in all respects. Imprint easier to see, better quality note.

\$3.00 Duxbury ...design: One large circle and word CHECK printed across entire back. One single line (slug) with all the patent information and imprint reaching almost each vertical border. "Entered according to an act of Congress in the year 1833 by Able Bowen in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of Massachusetts. (Second Slug), Designed and Engraved by Able Bowen: Boston. This line runs between the bottom of the circle while actually touchin it but about 1/32nd inch above the actual boarder. All text is quite clear.

I may have sent you copies of one or two other notes with the Congreve Back but I can't remember which ones they were and are now back in the collection somewhere. If you find I have missed describing them and can let me know which they are I will look for those also.

I will try to locate some info on this at the Federal

court, perhaps in the spring. My son Eric has yet to chase down the Perkins information at the library in Raleigh. I will have to touch base with him soon also.

The resolution and close-up inspection of the plates lead me to believe there could have been two or three process of printing used. Some have distinct white lines seperating the different colored devises but some appear to have had the ink dabbed over a previous printing. The Duxbury plate seems even different than the others. (Maybe it is just my headache?)

I wonder if Dave knew about these imprints. He doesn't mention it in his book but did know that Bowen was involved.

Regards,

John

— EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

- > Dear John:
- > My eye balls have fallen out of my head but I have
- > added substantially to
- > your discovery. I found my Congreve specimen frame
- > of eight backs at home
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- > first one did and that one had
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- > The line began at the
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- > ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS OF THE YEAR 1833
- > (perhps 1835) BY ABEL BOWEN IN THE
- > CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DIST CT OF MASSACHUSETTS. This
- > was on the same line as the
- > text you found.
- > I was thrilled because this proved he made the trial
- > plates and legitimately



- > filed his action of record.
- > Now the ball is in your court and I hope you are
- > able and willing to try to
- > find out what the District Court of Massachusetts
- > has on file in their
- > records. The original Bowen filing could be there.
- > The Federal District Court (not a
- > State Court) was referred to but thereafter they
- > might have been put
- > elsewhere.
- > Perhaps you can find the same new text on your
- > Nahant or Fall River notes.
- > Cooperative research always turns up wonderful
- > surprises.
- > Eric
- >

---

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Subj: **Re: Abel Bowen**  
Date: 1/3/2007 3:49:00 PM Central Standard Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

John:

We made a lot of work for ourselves with the Bowen imprints we have found by working together.

I will try to find the 1833 federal Act as it is probably a general copyright Act. What I hope your son or you might be able to do is to find the Bowen filing in the District Court of Massachusetts. It must be sometime in 1833 because one of your bills is dated 1833.

A further examination of the text on the Bowen eight specimen frame shows that there is a single number engraved after the end of "Massachusetts" on each back in order to have some easy identification for some of the different designs. Going from the top note down on the right hand side of the frame the number is 5, then 6, then 8 and then 7. The four left hand side notes in the frame do not seem to have numbers or else they may be under the matting but being four backs they should be numbered 1, 2, 3 & 4 to conform with the right side numbers.

I find that I have a set of the Nahant notes and will check them when I go to the vault. Some are in poor condition. Thank you for the additional detail.

You sent me Congreve- Bowen images of \$1 plate A , \$10 plate A & \$20 plate A of Nahant; \$5 plate C Fall River; \$1 plate A Dedham; \$1 plate B Chicopee; \$10 back plate D Agricultural; \$1 plate B Naumkea; \$10 Neponset; \$1 Calais; \$3 plate C Duxbury; \$1 plate A Veazie; and \$2 plate B Atlas

I do not think Dave knows about this matter or he probably would have disclosed it.

Onward: Eric

Subj: **Re: Abel Bowen**  
Date: 1/3/2007 9:40:24 PM Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Hello Eric,

I will try to do the Boston searching. It may require a trip to the courthouse. I know where it is, a pretty setting on the harbor. It will take me some time, however. But, hopefully not as long as it took the Red Sox to win the World Series.

I noticed the numeral "7" on the Duxbury note but did not mention it as I thought it was just an anomaly. It appears where you mention the numbers appear on your notes. I have not yet located any other numbers on the other notes. I may have time to get them out again over the weekend.

Thank you for listing the images of the notes I originally sent to you. Those other "Check" backs fall in the same time frame as the Congreve backs. I wonder if Bowen had something to do with them also? I can't seem to locate his imprint on any of them, so far. These other notes were also printed by the New England Banknote Company.

Regards,

John

-- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

- > John:
- > We made a lot of work for ourselves with the Bowen
- > imprints we have found by
- > working together.
- >
- > I will try to find the 1833 federal Act as it is
- > probably a general copyright
- > Act. What I hope your son or you might be able to do
- > is to find the Bowen
- > filing in the District Court of Massachusetts. It
- > must be sometime in 1833

Thursday, January 04, 2007 America Online: EricNumis

> in  
> NY, to open in May.  
>  
> Hope this finds you well -- we are still trying to dope out our entire  
> family tree, but other activities get in the way.  
>  
> Stay warm --- Love--- Happy holidays, and Cheers,  
>  
> Julian  
>  
>

----- End of Forwarded Message



> because one of your bills is dated 1833.  
 >  
 > A further examination of the text on the Bowen eight  
 > specimen frame shows  
 > that there is a single number engraved after the end  
 > of "Massachusetts" on each  
 > back in order to have some easy identification for  
 > some of the different  
 > designs. Going from the top note down on the right  
 > hand side of the frame the number  
 > is 5, then 6. then 8 and then 7. The four left hand  
 > side notes in the frame  
 > do not seem to have numbers or else they may be  
 > under the matting but being  
 > four backs they should be numbered 1, 2, 3 & 4 to  
 > conform with the right side  
 > numbers.  
 >  
 > I find that I have a set of the Nahant notes and  
 > will check them when I go to  
 > the vault. Some are in poor condition. Thank you for  
 > the additional detail.  
 >  
 > You sent me Congreve- Bowen images of \$1 plate A ,  
 > \$10 plate A & \$20 plate A  
 > of Nahant; \$5 plate C Fall River; \$1 plate A Dedham;  
 > \$1 plate B Chicopee; \$10  
 > back plate D Agricultural; \$1 plate B Naumkea; \$10  
 > Neponset; \$1 Calais; \$3  
 > plate C Duxbury; \$1 plate A Veazie; and \$2 plate B  
 > Atlas  
 >  
 > I do not think Dave knows about this matter or he  
 > probably would have  
 > disclosed it.  
 >  
 >  
 > Onward: Eric  
 >

---

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Subj: **Addendum**  
Date: 1/9/2007 8:13:16 AM Central Standard Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

A quick note. I think I also sent you a copy of the \$10.00 Essex of Guildhall, VT with the original mailing. If I did not I can follow up with it.

This back plate is also a number "7", and with a green and brown reverse. The note is in good shape but the imprint line from left to right did not come out as good as the Duxbury I mentioned before. I was hoping for a 1-2-3-or 4 plate but did not get lucky. At first glance the "7" seems to be designed in more of a "Federal" style than the other on the Duxbury. I will have to do more looking to confirm this when I get time.

I hope to be back to you later this weekend with definitive results.

Regards,  
John

P.S. I have located a volunteer in Boston who can (at his leisure) get to the Federal District Court in Boston. This would save me time in the first step of the search for Bowen's filing.

---

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Subj: Re: Congreve patent again  
Date: 1/13/2007 7:09:42 PM Central Standard Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: EricNumis@aol.com, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Eric,

I have been thinking about what you asked in the last paragraph of the e-mail below.

Even though I have never paid a visit to an engraver or really studied engraving before I have come to think that your thinking regarding the numbering and lettering must be correct. And, I think for this reason. If it were not done in the manner you describe the background which makes up 90% of the space on the Bowen plates would, when printed show up as white and the whole space from the left to the right of the note would call attention to itself. As it is now it took us almost 175 years (at least I have never seen it being described) to find the imprint that was in plain view all the while. I think it was intended to be done that way and so had to be executed in the manner you described.

As far as this 7 & 1/2 inch long by 1/16th inch high plate (which I see as being in 3 separate sections) is concerned, I think you are correct about it's manufacture. My next question though, is how did this plate contribute to the final product, the banknote? Was it used to overprint on to the banknote itself? The color of the brown ink that forms the background to the white letters is a shade darker than the other brown color on the note I am looking at but is the same brown color as the border of note itself.

Bowen has me stumped.

Regarding the statement, "Designed and Engraved by Able Bowen: Boston.", I now think he refers only to his statement on the left side of the note and not the whole Congreve Plate. What do you think?

Regards,  
John

--- EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

> Dear John:

Sunday, January 14, 2007 America Online: EricNumis

- > I have no record of receiving the image of the \$10
- > Essex Bank of Guildhall
- > Vt and I would appreciate your sending me it or any
- > others you find.
- > I went to a bank vault and found my Nahant \$1, 2, 5.
- > 10 and 20. Here are
- > preliminary observations from my few nice and
- > miserable examples.
- > My \$1 Nahant plate face A has a back which is red
- > and green and carries an
- > engraved "7". It has a different design from the
- > image of the one you sent me. .
- > It has the same design as the fourth back on the
- > right side of my frame of
- > backs..
- > My \$2 Nahant has back color design "6" and is the
- > same as the second from
- > the top of the right side of my frame.
- > My \$5 Nahant has the same back design as the fourth
- > item on the left side of
- > my frame. This only has the right side words
- > beginning with DESIGNED and does
- > not have a number. Apparently the four backs on the
- > left side of my frame had
- > no numbering and were all for the FIVE denomination.
- > My \$10 Nahant has a back pasted over it and is in
- > such poor condition that I
- > doubt if it would help.
- > My \$20 Nahant face plate A has a back like nothing
- > on my frame, but has the
- > word CHECK fully across the back. The back is
- > different from yours but is
- > printed with the same red and green colors. This
- > seems to show the backs were varied
- > in combination with the face plate as the face plate
- > A seems the same in both
- > our examples.
- > I doubt if my color copier will pick up these items
- > decently as my items are
- > worn substantially.
- >
- > I will have to go over all my New England bank notes
- > in due course to see if
- > I have other backs of interest.
- >
- > It has occurred to me that the numbering on the
- > back of the Congreve style
- > pieces and the Bowen lettering is in white. This
- > would seem that they were not
- > produced by punching the original engraved steel
- > plate. It would mean that an



- > engraved plate would have to have the ink rolled on
- > to the flat surface and
- > not get into the deep parts, and I presume this
- > could not be done.. If the
- > original engraved plate were transferred by casting
- > the letters would be high and
- > would print in color from the cast plate. Could all
- > the letters be punched into
- > a preliminary soft steel plate in mirror image, then
- > hardened and then
- > transferred flat (by a similar procedure to
- > siderography) to another soft steel
- > plate . Then the second soft steel plate could be
- > hardened and used for printing
- > by the engraving method. Can you enlighten me?
- >
- > Thanks for keeping me up to date on this tantalizing
- > problem. Eric.
- >
- >

---

Don't get soaked. Take a quick peak at the forecast  
with the Yahoo! Search weather shortcut.  
[http://tools.search.yahoo.com/shortcuts/#loc\\_weather](http://tools.search.yahoo.com/shortcuts/#loc_weather)

Subj: **Bowen the great**  
Date: 1/15/2007 10:08:16 AM Central Standard Time  
From: [EricNumis](#)  
To: [Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Dear John:

I think that we have together solved the Bowen bank note printing procedure. Bowen has adopted modified principles of Perkins who prepared the engraved backs in separate segments.

Bowen printed his faces by normal engraving methods but did not print his backs that way.

He started by engraving most of the back design by cutting into at least two adjacent pieces of steel, probably locked together. The two pieces were later separated and a type metal casting made of each. Here is where your "slug" comes in. Another very thin piece of metal (whether steel or type metal or otherwise) was punched with the lettering for the DESIGNED AND etc. which would have depressed letters. This was set in between the two cast pieces and all were locked together for printing the back. The ink was rolled on or pressed on to the projecting surfaces.

Thus the high parts of the cast pieces would receive ink to print the primary decorative design and the thin piece would receive ink only on the high surroundings of the depressed letters, leaving the letters themselves white or clear of ink.

Thus the note faces were created by wiping away the flat surface ink as in the engraving style of printing while the backs were created by inking only the projecting elements used in the set type style of printing.

There are variations of the above explanations but I have tried to set out as clearly as I can an amateur's concept of what apparently occurred. Now we have to tackle what Congreve was doing after we gather the outstanding material I am waiting for so it can be studied.

Subj: **Re: Inking**  
Date: 1/16/2007 9:27:05 PM Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com), [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Dear Eric,

Thank you for the quick reply. We plan to depart about 2 pm Thursday. If the weather in Maine is too severe we may end up in Boston. We have been pretty fortunate so far this winter with plenty of rain but no snow at all and the temperature has been in the 40-50 degree range.

The lines I was looking for were actually not the lines around the colors in the printing but the lines that I think should be evident although not pronounced and formed when the sections of the plate are reunited side by side and clamped in the press and then printed upon. The area on the plate impression I am referring to would be the ends of the Bowen statement and imprint and on both sides of the section of plate with the #7. If the plates were manufactured as you stated, in two or more sections and then the imprint plate inserted between, would there not be lines evident on the notes all the way from left to right the entire length of the plate?

Take for example the Perkins Plate notes as seen in his monograph on page six, the 10-5-5-5 sheet. These plates are each made up from 11 parts of the total plate. Two slugs in each example shown are missing. The lines I was referring to would be similar to the line you see joining the empty slug to the slug that contains the denomination "Five Dollars". It is also very evident on the 10 dollar plate. This is where the sections of plate meet each other.

On the Congreve back these lines are not evident, and between the three sections of the Bowen statement and imprint you can see a continuation of the original design. I would think that this could only be done if the original plate were excavated and the plate with the imprint etc. inserted or in some way the whole of the Bowen statement and imprint plate somehow impressed into a softened Congreve Plate.

Before enlisting any help with the filing we will try

to get to the Clerk's Office. If that fails we may have no choice but to ask your friend or Ann. Ann and I have met a couple of times. The last being last year at our club function where Dave Bowers and Dave Sundman spoke. Once a year the Boston Num. Soc. and Currency Club of N.E. have a combined meeting with an interesting speaker. Ann spoke at one event recently. We all shall meet again on April 1st and I should see her there again.

This has been enough enjoyment for one evening but I am still wondering about that plate.

Regards,  
John

— EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

- > Dear John:
- > While you are away for the week end you can think
- > about there not being a
- > thin line between the colors of the alleged cut out
- > parts for the back plate as
- > there should be. Perhaps the each Bowen ink pad or
- > pads or ink roller or
- > rollers had a shape which would apply one color of
- > ink to the plate only in certain
- > parts.
- > The Congreve patents had a very complex ink
- > application system as well and we
- > will learn more of that when the drawings are
- > studied.
- > If you are frustrated in finding the entry in the
- > District Cour tin Boston I
- > have a friend there whom I can ask to help. If that
- > fails I can ask Ann
- > Bentley at the Mass Hist Society who is interested
- > in numismatics and is a old
- > friend.
- > Eric.
- >

---

Need Mail bonding?

Wednesday, January 17, 2007 America Online: EricNumis



Subj: **Received your letter.....**  
Date: 2/1/2007 10:05:42 PM Central Standard Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: ericnumis@aol.com, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Eric,

Before getting into the new "back" you sent in the mail I just wanted to mention that I have been in contact with the National Archives, Waltham, Mass. Division, re: the Bowen filing in the Federal District Court of Massachusetts. I couldn't believe my luck when the first person I spoke to at the Clerk's office referred me to this section of the Archives.

They are presently doing a search for the Bowen filing and hopefully I will find out something before too long. As you recall, I am still having some difficulty understanding how the plate was put together without exposing some lines of ink where the plates should come together when clamped prior to the printing process. Maybe I will understand it better if this search is successful.

Next week my son, Eric will be in Boston and will try to search out the Perkin's Patent for me. The Boston Public Library is a sub-station, so to speak, of the U.S. Patent Office and he should be able to get a patent number there that I can plug in to my computer at home in order to find if they indeed do have a copy of the Patent at the main office.

Re: the new back plate you sent a copy of. I see similarities to the Perkin's process where the outline of the letters forming the TEN butt up to the engraving done by the geometric lathe. I notice many of the large white dots are truncated where they meet the body of the letters forming the word TEN. This results in the printing of many half-dots. This is the same result as shown on the older Perkin's notes resembling a "watermelon" design.

Presently, I don't know how this was done but I am sure it can't be all that complicated. This phenomena is what I look for when trying to determine whether the Perkin's note is authentic or not.

As far as getting the wavy pattern of lines of engraving on your back plate of the new design you mailed me I think it could also be done by having the

bed containing the plate which is being engraved on by the the geometric lathe moved slightly back and forth by action of some sort of cam during the engraving process.

As far as the word TEN goes. I think this could have been cut out of the plate after the whole plate was engraved.

It's too bad these impressions don't come with instructions!

By the way, did you notice the optical illusion? When looking at the vertical column of large white dots from bottom to top of the back plate, they all seem pretty much round but when viewing the plate from side to side they appear oval and some rows seem to lean to the right and some to left, then it repeats itself over and over.

Regards,

John

---

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My guess is that the adjacent wavy lines of large white dots alternating with Xs made of fine small white dots were created with a thin roller held by a geometric lathe and rolled across the plate many times. TEN in large letters was punched into the plate before or after the roller was used. The remaining top surface was then inked for printing the back in set type fashion. The face was printed in engraved plate fashion.





My guess is that the adjacent dots alternating with Xs on dots were created with a the geometric lathe and rolled times. TEN in large letters plate before or after the roller top surface was then inked, set type fashion. The face.



Hart

249

Subj: **Update on specific patent searches**  
Date: 2/15/2007 8:23:52 AM Central Standard Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

To keep you updated on the patent searches I started some months ago I can now tell you this.

1. Re: Bowen's filing in the District Court, Boston..  
I just received a response from an archivist at the National Archives office in Waltham saying that she could not find any reference to Bowen's filing and referred me to the USPTO. I will try there next.
2. My son Eric did get to spend some time at the Boston Public library a week ago and was able to locate evidence of the Perkins #4400 Patent which we already have.

However, another patent specifically regarding the actual manufacture of the plates (dated about 1809) is being searched for by an archivist there at this moment.  
I should have information on this fairly soon. This may actually be the patent for his earlier (watermellon style) plate, judging from the date, but it will be nice to see anyway.

John

---

TV dinner still cooling?  
Check out "Tonight's Picks" on Yahoo! TV.  
<http://tv.yahoo.com/>

**YAHOO! MAIL**

Print - Close Window

**Date:** Thu, 15 Feb 2007 06:23:44 -0800 (PST)  
**From:** "C.John Ferreri" <johnnybanknote@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Update on specific patent searches  
**To:** "Eric Newman" <ericnumis@aol.com>

①  
This is a copy of an  
e-mail I sent you on  
2-15-07. CJF

Dear Eric,

To keep you updated on the patent searches I started some months ago I can now tell you this.

1. Re: Bowen's filing in the District Court, Boston..  
I just received a response from an archivist at the National Archives office in Waltham saying that she could not find any reference to Bowen's filing and referred me to the USPTO. I will try there next.
2. My son Eric did get to spend some time at the Boston Public library a week ago and was able to locate evidence of the Perkins #4400 Patent which we already have.

However, another patent specifically regarding the actual manufacture of the plates (dated about 1809) is being searched for by an archivist there at this moment.  
I should have information on this fairly soon. This may actually be the patent for his earlier (watermelon style) plate, judging from the date, but it will be nice to see anyway.

John

} This TURNED OUT TO BE  
THE ENCLOSED MEMORANDUM  
which you probably already  
have,

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**YAHOO! MAIL**

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**Date:** Thu, 15 Feb 2007 09:38:44 -0500  
**From:** "Joan Gearin" <joan.gearin@nara.gov>  
**To:** "C.John Ferreri" <johnnnybanknote@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Search for Filing

2  
 THIS IS A COPY OF E-MAIL TO ME  
 FROM THE ARCHIVIST AT THE  
 "WALTHAM" ARCHIVES -

Hello again!

You may or may not know the following information (I did a little more digging online):

The X-Patents are all the patents issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office from July 1790 (when the first U.S. patent was issued), to July 1836. The actual number is unknown, but the best estimate is 9,957. They were burned in a fire, in December 1836, while in temporary storage. No copies or rosters were maintained by the government at the time, leaving only the inventors' copies to reconstruct the collection.

The X-Patents (the first 10,000 issued between 1790 and 1836) were destroyed by a fire; less than 3,000 of those have been recovered and re-issued with numbers that include an "X". The X is generally at the end of the number, except for the first patent which has the X at the beginning of the number. The X distinguishes the patents from those issued after the fire." [from www.wikipedia.org ]

Best,

Joanie Gearin  
 Archivist  
 NARA - Northeast Region  
 380 Trapelo Road  
 Waltham, MA 02452

joan.gearin@nara.gov  
 www.archives.gov/northeast

Tel: 781-663-0127  
 Toll-free Tel: 866-406-2379  
 Fax: 781-663-0156

ERIC,  
 ANY PATENTS FILED BY BOWEN AND/OR  
 PARKINS WHICH ENDED UP AT THE PATENT  
 OFFICE (U.S.) MAY HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED  
 TO THIS FIRM MENTIONED ABOVE AND  
 NOW, NOT AVAILABLE. THE #440 FROM  
 GREAT BRITAIN MAY BE THE ONLY PATENT  
 WE CAN OBTAIN -  
 C.J.F.

>>> "C.John Ferreri" <johnnnybanknote@yahoo.com> 2/15/2007 9:05 AM >>>

Dear Ms. Gearin,

Thank you for your efforts in trying to locate Able Bowen's (patent, copyright, filing), as the case may be. There was no law suit involved and the imprint on his and other engravings I have seen always refer to "Filed in The Federal District Court in such and such jurisdiction, etc.) I have noticed this statement on many engraving by different engravers of banknotes up to about 1860. This referred to the engraving on the plate as a work of art or new method of mechanically putting together a plate for the purpose of making engravings.

Jacob Perkins

June 16. 1810. Medox Providence County Library  
New London Journal Arts & Sciences Vol. 1 p. 161.  
(Vol #1 pg 161)

ERIC,

THE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN AT THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
IS STILL SEARCHING THE ABOVE MENTIONED PAPER. MAYBE IT  
WILL BE SOMETHING WE HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE?

I WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN HE GETS BACK TO ME -

Jah



Dear John,

Thanks. The Perkins stuff in the Numismatic Sun was distilled from my recent book. I have no new info on Congreve. It is interesting that both Perkins and Congreve were inventors outside of bank note plates, including with military stuff.

The ABNCo plate archives had nothing even remotely resembling a slug plate or elements for making up a plate by locking them in a frame. Jim Haxby, with whom you are of course well acquainted, has been poking around on early New England Bank Note Co. history and the 1832 transition from Newburyport to Boston—and might be worth contacting. I'd love to be copied on anything you find!

I'll copy Eric P.N. on this. I don't know what my April schedule is for discretionary trips; I usually put "must do" things on my calendar and fill in the other stuff later. Dave Sundman left yesterday, for most of the month, to stay in his new winter home near High Point, NC.

Best wishes,  
DAVE B

-----Original Message-----

From: C. John Ferreri [mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 11:53 AM  
To: David Bowers CCNE  
Subject: Perkins Plates

Dear David,

I just read with interest your article in Stack's N.S. regarding the Perkin's notes. I am curious if you might ever have had the good fortune to see and handle a complete set of slugs and parts that would make up a whole plate. I would love to be able to see something like this in the flesh.

Eric Newman and I have been discussing Perkin's and Congreve's methods since about this time last year. I have written to and received from the British Patent Office in South Wales a small group of Perkins and Congreve patents and also a nice article with illustrations from the London Journal of Arts and Science relating to the Perkins method.

We also noticed that Able Bowen somehow obtained the right to print the Congreve backs on some of those New England notes we know about. I have searched for a patent issued to Bowen but to no avail. We do know he applied or filed his intention to print these backs but either a patent was not applied for or possibly could have been lost in the Patent Office fire of

1836. Those that were lost but were able to be reconstructed are now noted as "X Patents".

Eric contacted me last year as he has some special interest in the manufacture of these Perkins and Congreve plates so I have been trying to help research them.

It has been fun even though we didn't get all the information we wanted

If you can make the BNS /CCNE combined meeting on April 9th John Adams will be speaking on Early Colonial Medals. He will be assisted by Anne Bentley. These combined events have gone over pretty well and we hope to continue them in the coming years.

Best regards,

John

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Mr. John Ferreri:  
P.O. Box 33  
Storrs CT 06268

Dear John:

I hope that you are happy in selling your business and can retire to family, bank notes, gardening, etc.

I am glad that you received my package of the Perkins and Congreve etc. material for study some time.

As I explained to you over the telephone I had a contact going to the Smythe Auction in July and asked him to protect your three bids in case someone found out what they were and just topped them a trifle. I told him to wait until someone else bid more than your bid and then authorized him to go up to \$250 more than your bid to help you get the lot. I was only successful with the \$5 Mystic Bank which was Lot # 3876. Your bid was \$860 on a \$400 to \$600 estimate. Someone else bid \$900 and my agent successfully bid \$950. .

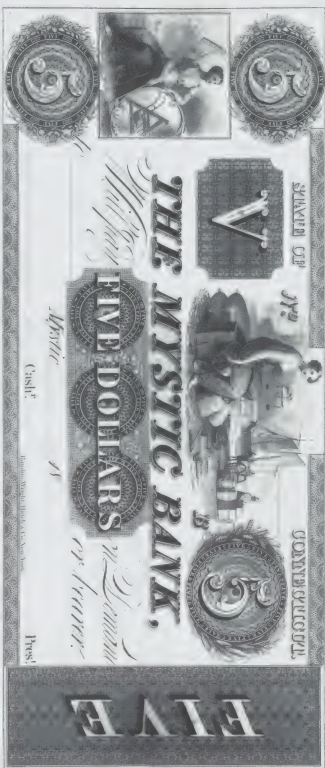
I am enclosing this Mystic proof and hope it appeals to you.

As I mentioned to you I would very much appreciate acquiring from you the \$5 Bridgeport Bank proof, Haxby, G84 which you have. You indicated that this might be agreeable and if that is satisfactory to you we would make it an even swap for the payment for the \$5 Mystic Bank piece. If you are please send it to me in due course. My address is 6450 Cecil Ave. St. Louis MO 63105 which you already know.

I am very excited about some new writing I am doing. A group of numismatic friends want me to be the author of a book on the Fugio coppers and they are writing it for me and all I do is edit it. I gave them my files to work with but it is over fifty years since I first wrote on the subject. I am also completing the 5th edition of The Early Paper Money of America as ml believe I told you with lots of color images. Two other articles are in the works so you see I am hooked.

My best to you and your wife.

Eric

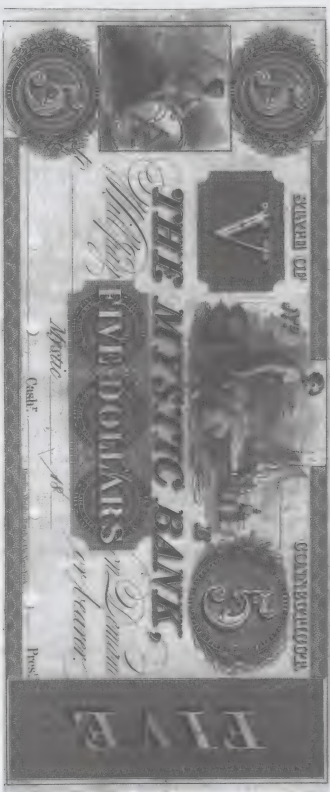


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Subj: **Mystic—Bridgeport Swap**  
Date: 8/13/2007 8:43:54 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

The Mystic note has arrived and I am packing the Bridgeport note for mailing. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have. Thank you arranging the bidding process.

I wish I could tell you more about the note and where I got it from but I did not record that information. As you will see it was a special note in that it was professionally prepared for presentation with the hardly noticable backing and the outlining on the front. Could it be a Vattermere(sic?)note? I did get it in 1982, 25 years ago. Enjoy it!

Your words about the Fugio Cents brought back a memory, also about 25-30 years ago. I had somehow acquired 2 copies of Auctori Connec. and while at the State Library in Hartford trying to do a month's research in one afternoon, met a gent who was a new collector of Colonial Coins. He was searching for some references and especially on Fugios. I mailed him my extra copy, gratis. He had never heard of the booklet and was estatic about it. I'm sure I don't need to explain the feeling one gets when you are able to do something like this for a new collector?

I think we get as much pleasure obtaining, selling, swapping or giving material to others and seeing that it is appreciated.

One of the most rare of Connecticut notes is a genuine note on the Charter Oak Bank of Hartford. That same day at the Library I saw the mother-load. When the banks became national about 1865 some gave their remainder notes to state archives, etc. What I saw was a band of 50 uncut sheets from this bank. the only problem with them was that the bank trimmed about 25% off the right side of the sheets so none of the notes were whole. That was quite a day!

I would love to write a book some day as you have mentioned and have someone else do the work. It would be like eating "lazy-lobster".

Let me know when the note arrives safely. And, if not satisfied please let me know.

Best regards,  
John

---

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Saturday, August 18, 2007 AOL: EricNumis

**YAHOO! MAIL**

Print - Close Window

**Date:** Mon, 13 Aug 2007 18:43:30 -0700 (PDT)  
**From:** "C.John Ferreri" <johnnybanknote@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Mystic---Bridgeport Swap  
**To:** "Eric Newman" <ericnumis@aol.com>

Dear Eric,

The Mystic note has arrived and I am packing the Bridgeport note for mailing. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have. Thank you arranging the bidding process.

I wish I could tell you more about the note and where I got it from but I did not record that information. As you will see it was a special note in that it was professionally prepared for presentation with the hardly noticable backing and the outlining on the front. Could it be a Vattemere(sic?)note? I did get it in 1982, 25 years ago. Enjoy it!

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I would love to write a book some day as you have mentioned and have someone else do the work. It would be like eating "lazy-lobster".

Let me know when the note arrives safely. And, if not satisfied please let me know.

Best regards,  
John

Subj: **Bank Note Exchange**  
Date: 8/20/2007 7:59:14 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Johnny:

The \$5 Bridgeport note arrived today in good shape. I was concerned as to where it was hiding as you told me it was mailed over a week ago by registered mail and just arrived on August 20, 2007. The registered mail I presume is handled so protectively that it becomes snail mail. It should be called sloth mail as when we were in Costa Rica there was a sloth crossing a road and all auto traffic had to stop and wait until the animal made it even though it was moving across all the time. A snail would have been faster.

My FUGIO book is coming along slowly as I told you and there are so many speculations and theories about the matter, written and published in the past, that I have decided not to try to refute them but just say they are without factual support.

I think of you pharmacists every morning when I take all my pills which seem to be keeping me in good shape. My grandfather as I may have told you was a pharmacist and specialized in leeches.

My best to you. Eric

---

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Subj: **Scans of sheets**  
Date: 5/28/2008 6:06:16 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

Hopefully the four scans I took will transmit to you in one try. If they don't I will follow up with 3 more transmissions. The scans were taken right through the mylar sheets that they reside in so you may see some notations. They are not on the sheets themselves.

The things that caught my eye are the the rectangular pieces along one or two sides of the plates. I do not know if these are needed to hold securely the one large 4-note plate or to hold securely the four or five plates used to make the impression. If only some of these plates have survived they could possibly put these questions to rest.

Im glad you enjoyed the scans of the Union Bank note. It is quite a thrill to own the piece.

John

Subj: **Howard Johnson?**  
Date: 10/25/2008 8:51:38 PM Central Daylight Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

I have sent an e-mail to Bruce Hagen at Stacks asking if he could help you with the phone number of Mr. Johnson. Hopefully it won't be against Stacks privacy policy to accomodate you if they have it.

All I could find in Bridgeport was one listing for a Howard Johnson, no listings for (Johnsen) or (Johnston). This is it: 219 Evergreen St. Bridgeport, CT 06606 203-333-1356.

The "Bucket Shop" information was interesting! I suppose that could have taken place in other large cities without a stock exchange also. With the market down so much now I suppose those who invest, will in a few years reap considerable reward.

The gold bullion price is down about \$300.00 from its high but Gold \$20 coins are still selling at close to their highs. But the premium has increased to about 30%! Silver on the other hand has not held up quite so nicely.

Re: the Congreve design with the large white letters, (CHECK PLATE,etc).  
The solution to the compound plate has become somewhat of a compound riddle.

All I can deduce is that the words CHECK PLATE, etc. were stamped over the original engraved plate then the whole plate was taken up and printed in relief on the final plate. After stamping over the original engraved plate some of the original engraved lines were not completely depressed so vaguely show up on the finished printing. I have been thinking about this since you last e-mailed me with the question about a month ago. Is this what you come up with?

Regards,

John



Subj: **New Perkins/Congreve/Bowen Developements**  
Date: 11/9/2008 7:02:30 PM Central Standard Time  
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

I have been collecting my thoughts on our friends Perkins, Congreve and Bowen since we last met at your chateau on the Vinyard. And, I find myself agreeing with all your assumptions on the manufacturing of the Congreve style Bowen plates. The one thing that remains to bother me is the complexity of it all to reach the resulting end point. Complexity means expense. The Perkins plate inventions had some staying power, (50 years) while the Bowen experiment with the Congreve Patent method for some reason, did not fare as well, (2 years?). It must have been an expensive process and maybe that is why it appears on so few bank notes and was abandoned, certainly by 1835, possibly sooner.

Since summer, In order to put my thoughts into perspective I have made up an informative program that I plan to give to our local paper money club (Currency Club of New England) in a few months. The program is accompanied by about 30 powerpoint slides and goes over each man's contribution to the security problem in a linear way to try to keep clear as to who was doing what and when. I made this mostly for myself to help clear my mind but then thought that if I could present it at a Boston meeting maybe someone there could add information that I overlooked. One slide lists the 13 banks that I could find that issued notes with Congreve/Bowen backs. If you would like, I could send you a copy of the slide show on a diskette and the narrative also. All that would be missing would be the ad lib discussion that this would provoke.

I also have come across another of Harris' monographs from 1970, Perkins, Congreve and Counterfeit Printing in 1820. I did not know of this one before. It explains some of what we already know, only a little clearer. (I do take issue with her description of the manufacture of the Perkins Back Plate.) Maybe you have this monograph. If not I would be glad to make a copy to send to you.

Lastly, when you have time could you look at your frame of Congreve specimens, especially the back plate #6? Here, I am looking at a scan of a note with that back plate # and the Bowen imprint is there but the filing statement that normally appears on the left side of the note and ending almost up to the where the Bowen imprint starts seems to have been "engraved over". While the last word or two in the statement are partially visible the preceding words for the most part are not. It seems that the statement has been intentionally eradicated and with white line engraving.

I hope all has been well with you and Evelyn.

John

Subj: **Re: New Perkins/Congreve/Bowen Developements**  
Date: 11/14/2008 1:20:57 PM Central Standard Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Johnny:

Thank you for your interesting message about the Congreve, etc. subject.

I am not aware of the Harris 1920 material on the Perkins, Congreve, etc. matter which you located and would be happy if you send me a hard copy at your convenience.

I have not been at my vaults in a stretch since I have been overwhelmed with writing projects. As soon as I can get there I will check the Congreve plates, assuming I can see what you are asking for.

I think we are going to add a room to our Martha's Vineyard shack so that the next time you visit us you will have more than a bed and breakfast experience.

Our best to both of you.

Eric

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Subj: **Re: New Perkins/Congreve/Bowen Developements**  
 Date: 11/14/2008 3:42:32 PM Central Standard Time  
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

I am getting a packet ready to mail to you. One item enclosed will be a diskette with the Perkins, Congreve & Bowen slides I have made up. I just tried loading it but the diskette capacity was too small for the 30 slides. I will pick up a larger capacity disk in a few days and get this all off to you at that point.

If you add another room to your "castle in the clouds" you may be in danger of finding friends and relatives you never knew you had. That actually did happen to my folks when they bought property at a Rhode Island beach many years ago.

Regards to you and Evelyn,

John

--- On Fri, 11/14/08, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

> From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>  
 > Subject: Re: New Perkins/Congreve/Bowen Developements  
 > To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 > Date: Friday, November 14, 2008, 2:20 PM  
 > Dear Johnny:  
 > Thank you for your interesting message about the Congreve,  
 > etc. subject.  
 > I am not aware of the Harris 1920 material on the Perkins,  
 > Congreve, etc.  
 > matter which you located and would be happy if you send me  
 > a hard copy at your  
 > convenience.  
 > I have not been at my vaults in a stretch since I have been  
 > overwhelmed with  
 > writing projects. As soon as I can get there I will check  
 > the Congreve plates,  
 > assuming I can see what you are asking for.  
 > I think we are going to add a room to our Martha's  
 > Vineyard shack so that the  
 > next time you visit us you will have more than a bed and  
 > breakfast experience.  
 > Our best to both of you.  
 > Eric  
 > \*\*\*\*\*Get the Moviefone Toolbar. Showtimes,  
 > theaters, movie news &  
 > more!(http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100000075x1212774565x1200812037/aol?redir=htt  
 > p://toolbar.aol.com/moviefone/download.html?ncid=emlcntusdown00000001)

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 9/19/2009 8:51:15 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com)

Hello Eric,

It has been some time we last coresponded so I thought I would write. I hope all has been well with you and Evelyn. All is well here in Connecticut, now. This spring Sue's mother passed away. It wasn't unexpected, she was not in good health since about July of 2008.

I know you have been devoting time to writing as you stated last November but have you had time to find any more information on Abel Bowen? I trust you received my last mailing of the new Harris booklet and the CD with the three inventors, Perkins, Congreve and Bowen. I have updated it since with new information and more finds of banknotes that Bowen used the Congreve patent for. I have also been able to purchase a beautiful specimen note on the Deal Bank of England done in the Congreve manner by Robert Branston, 1825.

Dave Bowers was here this summer to photograph more notes for yet another new book and Jim Haxby is going to do the same in the next few months for a new book he is working on.

I have never heard of the McCabe book that you mentioned last fall as being on the market. Do you know if it has been published yet?

Did you get to Martha's Vineyard is year? I hear that the President stayed not too far from your home, there. That's not bad company to be with!

Best regards,

John Ferreri

Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
Date: 9/21/2009 11:58:09 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [EricNumis](mailto:EricNumis)  
To: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Dear John:

It was great hearing from you. I am glad you and your wife are fine. We were in Martha's Vineyard for a while this last summer and built another sleeping room on the side of our cabin. We expected to be visited by the Obamas who were only a few miles away in Chilmark but he had to go to a funeral. Nevertheless we are planning to spend a long time next summer at our cabin and now can have you can come and stay with us as guests. We will be married seventy years in late this year and are going to take a cruise visiting some of the places we visited on our honeymoon in 1939.

I am flooded with research projects and am glad you are doing the same. I have been helping a number of others to write books and articles just as you are doing.

I am glad you found another Congreve item and have not been able to do further work on that subject as yet.

Our best to both of you.

Eric and Evelyn

In a message dated 9/19/2009 8:51:15 P.M. Central Daylight Time, [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com) writes:

Hello Eric,

It has been some time we last corresponded so I thought I would write. I hope all has been well with you and Evelyn. All is well here in Connecticut, now. This spring Sue's mother passed away. It wasn't unexpected, she was not in good health since about July of 2008.

I know you have been devoting time to writing as you stated last November but have you had time to find any more information on Abel Bowen? I trust you received my last mailing of the new Harris booklet and the CD with the three inventors, Perkins, Congreve and Bowen. I have updated it since with new information and more finds of banknotes that Bowen used the Congreve patent for. I have also been able to purchase a beautiful specimen note on the Deal Bank of England done in the Congreve manner by Robert Branstons, 1825.

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Did you get to Martha's Vineyard is year? I hear that the President stayed not too far from your home, there. That's not bad company to be with!

Best regards,

John Ferreri



Subj: Re: Ormsby  
 Date: 3/13/2010 9:18:17 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
 From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
 To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

There is no need to apologize. I don't know how you keep the pace that you do. Both, you and Evelyn have quite the gift. Bravo!

You mention John Ford. I met him once during an ANA convention in the early 1980's. I think you were at that convention, also. Dave Bowers, who I was selling obsolete banknotes to at the time, invited Ford, Julian Leidman, some of their staffers and me to dinner at a small Danish smorgsbord near the convention site. At that time I didn't know John Ford from Chief Pontiac. What I really remembered was that the food was good. Some time after that, I starting hearing pro and con stories about the man and was glad that I couldn't add any fuel to that fire.

I'm glad you were satisfied with the original copy of the Ormsby book. I have never seen an original. Recently, an original edition of the Perkins Bank Bill Test sold at an eBay auction. The plates in that booklet looked like proof impressions of the fronts and backs of the Perkins sheets. Of course, my copy is the reprint edition.

Best regards to you and Evelyn,

John

--- On Sat, 3/13/10, [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com) <[EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)> wrote:

From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com) <[EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)>  
 Subject: Ormsby  
 To: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
 Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010, 7:07 PM

Dear Johnny:

I am really embarrassed not to have responded sooner to your kindness in lending me your copy of the reprint of Ormsby's 1852 book. When the Stacks auction occurred I was in a state of flux. I had not bid on the Ford example because I did not wish to have anything to do with him or his possessions after having had no contact with him for 35 years prior to his death. That may have been stupid in not bidding but human emotions and satisfactions are strange. I had long wished a copy and never was able to obtain one. Then comes the Stacks library nook which was missing plate 13 and was rebound. Then I wondered if that was even stupider than my first decision.

When I received the Stacks copy I was absolutely delighted with the beauty of the frontispiece in color and the other bank note plates. Then I found that many of the plates were trimmed on the top or bottom or both only to learn that the original book was prepared for a size that was not big enough to insert the plates and the plates all had to be trimmed for insertion. Finally I read the extensive discussion of the Ormsby saga in Dave Bowers book on obsolete currency. I presume you knew all of this long ago. I will return your book shortly with whatever was your outlay for sending it. Thank you again for your kindness..

As I indicated to you I have had lots of family visits. When a couple of my great grandchildren came they unscrewed everything including medicine containers and scattered the parts everywhere. The toothpaste was squeezed onto the rug. Each drawer was opened and the contents returned to any other drawer so we could not find anything after we found the drawer

handles which often were removed. My research papers which were open on various desks was shuffled and scattered. It was a delight to see that much energy.

I gave had interesting numismatists to see my museum and who want me to help them on research projects. I had to move my auxiliary numismatic library at Washington University from one space to another smaller one. My main numismatic library is next to the museum with a rolling ladder to reach the higher books. My wife is closing her office of 40 years and now is creating new charitable projects from home. We will go to the Vineyard for a good part of the summer and watch the birds.

Our best to you and your wife. I hope you are full of health and still understand the stock market.  
Eric

Subj: **Re: Congratulations!**  
 Date: 8/4/2010 1:30:05 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time  
 From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)  
 To: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)

Dear Johnny:

We have added an additional new room and bath to our Chilmark shack so you can stay with us on your visit next summer. I plan to be only 100 at that time so I hope my marbles are still rolling.

As to the withdrawal from circulation comment in Gwynne & Day the same or similar content was in Hodges and other bank note reporters. Please be kind enough to check what you have on that matter. as there are slight variations in that text.

As to Dick Hooper's list did he have anything from the State Bank (New Jersey) at Camden or at Trenton or elsewhere as to bills below \$5. Also check whether Hooper mentioned the \$1 and \$2 bills of private issues of New Jersey manufacturing companies named Union Works or Cumberland Works which were payable in State Bank of Camden bills and had places for the signature of the manager or agent of one of the firms. The name of the firm is very small and not in the main part of the note. Thank you for this tedious work and no urgency. Have fun in Boston. Eric

In a message dated 8/3/2010 4:50:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com) writes:

Dear Eric,

What a nice story your lengthy search makes! I have searched my BNRs and can not come up with much. I do have an 1862 Gwynn & Day reprint (you probably have the same) that states that the \$2 and \$3 notes of the State Bank of New Jersey have been withdrawn, but gives no discription. The various other copies I have, have been culled for all states except Connecticut, a gift from Dick Hooper about 1972. About all I can add is that I notice that Haxby prices the Bridgeport note in two conditions. Jim would not price a note unless he actually saw a circulated specimen. I suppose he could have goofed up on one here and there.

Enjoy your summer on the Vineyard. Maybe Sue and I could make another day trip to there next summer and stop for a visit.

Regards,

John

--- On Tue, 8/3/10, [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com) <[EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)> wrote:

From: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com) <[EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)>  
 Subject: Re: Congratulations!  
 To: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
 Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 2:51 PM

Dear Johnny and Sue:

I appreciate your comments as to my work on the Audubon matter. I knew nothing about a grouse until many years ago I was asked to find it by my coauthor, Robert Peck. I knew next to nothing about a grouse and did not know there were many varieties and that in southwest Missouri there was an area of plains where the greater prairie chicken puts on a courting display at 4 AM in the spring and the female determines which male had the best display. I

telephoned the Conservation Dept of MO and the man in charge of grouse wildlife in the prairies said he was coming to St. Louis to attend a staff meeting and would help me there afterward. I agreed. His St. Louis meeting broke up very early because important others did not show up and he forgot about me and drove home 200 miles away. Then I had to go to the library to read about the grouse and I learned more than I wanted to know.

I finally bought my first grouse banknote at an auction. I also found a picture of a bird on a Fairman sample sheet. Then I bought at auction more Fairman sample sheets with a grouse. I thought I should try to get others and after I requested if you were nice enough to trade me yours. After a long search I finally saw your former banknote in Haxby showing the grouse but Haxby did not mention the bird in his detailed descriptions. I thought that the grouse might be on banknotes of State Bank at Camden (New Jersey). Hodges Bank Note reporters were routine except they continually said that the State Bank at Camden (New Jersey) had not issued a \$2 banknote for two years. The two years statement was made in other reporters from 1844 (perhaps earlier) and was copied in Hodges from 1856 through I think 1865. Do you have any banknote reporters of genuine bills before 1844 up to 1854 mentioning \$2 The State Bank at Camden (New Jersey)?

I had a lot to grouse about as worked on the matter for years. I still do not know some of the answers. When I receive my off prints of our article in a couple of weeks I will send one to you. The 25 page article itself will be issued by the University of Pennsylvania Press for the Journal of Early America which is academic. I may rewrite and shorten the entire article for the numismatic press.

I do not plan to go to the ANA Convention as it is too complex for me to do it physically and I do not want to burden others. Have fun there. We are in the Vineyard for the summer and I am diverting by writing a new matter about a coin. Obama is coming for his vacation to Chilmark about 2 miles or so from our house. We have a lot of family this summer but next summer we welcome you. Our best to both of you Evelyn and Eric

In a message dated 8/3/2010 9:06:17 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:

Dear Eric,

I just read the E-sylum posting of the results of your research regarding the Audubon engraving that appears on banknotes. The Bridgeport note that appears in the posting seems to be the note that you traded me for a year or so ago.

I could tell that the note seemed special to you at the time and wondered if I ever would find out why. I'm glad you were able to identify that "grouse" vignette for all the (collectors) benefit.

I recall musing over that vignette at one time or another wondering why I had never seen it on another note. I never suspected that it was an Audubon engraving. Good work, Eric!

For the first time in 20 years we will be able to attend an ANA convention as it comes to Boston this year. Our club, the Currency Club Of New England will have a table there on the midway before entering the main hall. I will be working the table there during the week hoping to gain some new members for the club. Will you be

able to get to the show?

Our best to you and Evelyn.

John and Sue Ferreri



Subj: Re: Congratulations!  
 Date: 8/4/2010 7:30:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time  
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

I will look for that information for you when I get to the AAS. Yes, Jim Haxby is alive and well and is currently writing two books. One is an update on the great listing of all obsolete notes which I can't believe will be completed in less than another 4-5 years. The other is something new I am not at liberty to talk about. His e-mail address is [hax30@bellsouth.net](mailto:hax30@bellsouth.net) and phone, 828-551-0529.

Jim and I and our wives spent a weekend together in Newburyport, Mass. last May. We were there for the dedication of the Perkins building as they completed the first phase of restoration. Jim gave a presentation on Jacob Perkins and I displayed about 100 Perkins notes while both of us fielded questions from the 100 or more people that attended. We had quite a time! The weather was perfect and they treated us like royalty. My addition to the mix was close to a last minute decision but really went well as almost no one there had ever seen a Perkins Plate Note. It really put a face on the Perkins' mystique.

The building is somewhat unique. It is about 20 x 20 (an old 4-square), three stories tall, brick and built with strong timbers. It is unusual in that there was no access to the second floor (for security's sake, we assume) except for an outside staircase and there may have been a furnace room attached, on the first floor. There was ample evidence that the windows had bars, somewhat like a jail and the first floor had two windows with huge security shutters on the inside. On one wall of the second floor, at floor level, some bricks were formed with what appeared as toe-holds, in 3-4 places. None of us, even the restoring architect could figure out the use for those. Could it possibly be for the machinery he may have had in there? We figured the third floor would have been used as the printery. There was some evidence of nails, hooks, etc in the overhead beams where cradles for drying paper could hang.

During restoration an artifact was found between the floor boards that proved the existance of an engraving-printworks in the building. A small (size and shape of a half dollar) slug of copper with the impression of a bank name along with the crosshatch background was found. This seemed like a trial impression made by a transfer press as the copper was slightly cupped or rounded as it drew on the pressure of the heavy machine.

Yes! Research is fun.

John

--- On Wed, 8/4/10, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>  
 Subject: Re: Congratulations!  
 To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
 Date: Wednesday, August 4, 2010, 5:56 PM

Dear Johnny:

Thank you for the newest round of information we do and do not have. I think it will be wonderful for you to examine the AAS collection in due course to see what items they have from the State Bank (New Jersey) at Camden as well as Trenton, and also the Union and Cumberland Works. I have to assume that Wait saw them but it is worth while to check on it.

As to Hooper's Connecticut list I would like to know what it shows as to the Bridgeport Bank because Haxby shows a signed \$10 note as well as the proof. I understand that Haxby is somewhere and would like to contact him if I can find him. I was told that he plans or planned to amend his prior work but had a problem with Krause Publications which published his prior work on digital form. Do you have any contact with Haxby or know if he is reachable?

As to Gwynne & Day I have both editions with supplements in my library and am having the detail extracted and mailed to me. I will have the same done on all my editions of Hodges.

Maybe the grouse was on a \$2 State Bank at Camden bill but that is now pure hopeful speculation  
Ain't research fun? Eric

In a message dated 8/4/2010 5:01:48 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:

Dear Eric,

Attached is a scan of page #101 from the 1862 Gwynne & Day Register. It will show the listing for the State Bank at Camden issues.

Regarding the Hooper photocopies: around 1972 Dick offered to supply me with copies of Connecticut bank note lists and registers. He must have had quite a few of them at the time. He culled out all the states except for Connecticut as I was going to write the SPMC edition on Connecticut at that time. It worked out that I was too busy with work to even think about it back then and since I retired I have been too busy trying to catch up with everything else. So, Dick photocopied the cover pages and the Connecticut sections of about 25 of these pamphlets for me. I never had or saw any of the other state listings, New Jersey included.

In the fall I hope to again visit the AAS in Worcester on a monthly basis and will be glad to look through their holdings for you. I assume they should have some copies. I have to finish looking through their notes for other reasons and I can fit in a visit there once a month when I go to a club meeting in Worcester.

In George Wait's New Jersey book there is mention of notes of the Cumberland Works but no \$1 or \$2s. The Union Works does list a \$1 note but the description does not mention a "grouse" although it is a Fairman, Draper, Underwood note. I don't know if there is a separate listing for New Jersey merchant notes from any other author.

Maybe we will be able to accept your offer for a night in the new bedroom, next summer. I'm sure it comes with the best view on the east coast.

Regards,

John

— On Wed, 8/4/10, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: Congratulations!  
To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
Date: Wednesday, August 4, 2010, 1:30 PM

Dear Johnny:

We have added an additional new room and bath to our Chilmark shack so you can stay with us on your visit next summer. I plan to be only 100 at that time so I hope my marbles are still rolling.

As to the withdrawal from circulation comment in Gwynne & Day the same or similar content was in Hodges and other bank note reporters. Please be kind enough to check what you have on that matter, as there are slight variations in that text.

As to Dick Hooper's list did he have anything from the State Bank (New Jersey) at Camden or at Trenton or elsewhere as to bills below \$5. Also check whether Hooper mentioned the \$1 and \$2 bills of private issues of New Jersey manufacturing companies named Union Works or Cumberland Works which were payable in State Bank of Camden bills and had places for the signature of the manager or agent of one of the firms. The name of the firm is very small and not in the main part of the note. Thank you for this tedious work and no urgency.

Have fun in Boston. Eric

In a message dated 8/3/2010 4:50:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:

Dear Eric,

What a nice story your lengthy search makes! I have searched my BNRs and can not come up with much. I do have an 1862 Gwynn & Day reprint (you probably have the same) that states that the \$2 and \$3 notes of the State Bank of New Jersey have been withdrawn, but gives no description. The various other copies I have, have been culled for all states except Connecticut, a gift from Dick Hooper about 1972. About all I can add is that I notice that Haxby prices the Bridgeport note in two conditions. Jim would not price a note unless he actually saw a circulated specimen. I suppose he could have goofed up on one here and there.

Enjoy your summer on the Vineyard. Maybe Sue and I could make another day trip to there next summer and stop for a visit.

Regards,

John

--- On Tue, 8/3/10, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Congratulations!

To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010, 2:51 PM

Dear Johnny and Sue:

I appreciate your comments as to my work on the Audubon matter. I knew nothing about a grouse until many years ago I was asked to find it by my coauthor, Robert Peck. I knew next to nothing about a grouse and did not know there were many varieties and that in southwest Missouri there was an area of plains where the greater prairie chicken puts on a courting display at 4 AM in the spring and the female determines which male had the best display. I telephoned the Conservation Dept of MO and the man in charge of grouse wildlife in the prairies said he was coming to St. Louis to attend a staff meeting and would help me there afterward. I agreed. His St. Louis meeting broke up very early because important others did not show up and he forgot about me and drove home 200 miles away. Then I had to go to the library to read about the grouse and I learned more than I wanted to know.

I finally bought my first grouse banknote at an auction. I also found a picture of a bird on a Fairman sample sheet. Then I bought at auction more Fairman sample sheets with a grouse. I thought I should try to get others and after I requested it you were nice enough to trade me yours. After a long search I finally saw your former banknote in Haxby showing the grouse but Haxby did not mention the bird in his detailed descriptions. I thought that the grouse might be on banknotes of State Bank at Camden (New Jersey). Hodges Bank Note reporters were routine except they continually said that the State Bank at Camden (New Jersey) had not issued a \$2 banknote for two years. The two years statement was made in other reporters from 1844 (perhaps earlier) and was copied in Hodges from 1856 through I think 1865. Do you have any banknote reporters of genuine bills before 1844 up to 1854 mentioning \$2 The State Bank at Camden (New Jersey)?

I had a lot to grouse about as worked on the matter for years. I still do not know some of the answers. When I receive my off prints of our article in a couple of weeks I will send one to you. The 25 page article itself will be issued by the University of Pennsylvania Press for the Journal of Early America which is academic. I may rewrite and shorten the entire article for the numismatic press.

I do not plan to go to the ANA Convention as it is too complex for me to do it physically and I do not want to burden others. Have fun there. We are in the Vineyard for the summer and I am diverting by writing a new matter about a coin. Obama is coming for his vacation to Chilmark about 2 miles or so from our house. We have a lot of family this summer but next summer we

welcome you.  
Evelyn and Eric

Our best to both of you

In a message dated 8/3/2010 9:06:17 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time,  
johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:

Dear Eric,

I just read the E-sylum posting of the results of your research regarding the Audubon engraving that appears on banknotes. The Bridgeport note that appears in the posting seems to be the note that you traded me for a year or so ago.

I could tell that the note seemed special to you at the time and wondered if I ever would find out why. I'm glad you were able to identify that "grouse" vignette for all the (collectors) benefit.

I recall musing over that vignette at one time or another wondering why I had never seen it on another note. I never suspected that it was an Audubon engraving. Good work, Eric!

For the first time in 20 years we will be able to attend an ANA convention as it comes to Boston this year. Our club, the Currency Club Of New England will have a table there on the midway before entering the main hall. I will be working the table there during the week hoping to gain some new members for the club. Will you be able to get to the show?

Our best to you and Evelyn.

John and Sue Ferreri



Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
Date: 11/18/2010 2:18:57 P.M. Central Standard Time  
From: [johnnybanknote@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnybanknote@yahoo.com)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)

Dear Eric,

The address is: John Ferreri  
P.O. Box 33  
Storrs, CT 06268

If you ever need help sending an image by e-mail I would be glad to help. All you would need is a scanner or a copier with scanning abilities. If you already have images in your data base it is real easy. If you have to scan your note or object first it is a little more complicated but once you do a few of them it will become second nature.

John

--- On Thu, 11/18/10, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: (no subject)  
To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010, 1:47 PM

Dear Johnny:

Thank you for your prompt answer to my Perkins inquiry. I will send you a copy of my piece if you will send me your mailing address, I do not know how to send it by Email. Eric

In a message dated 11/17/2010 8:19:49 P.M. Central Standard Time, johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:

John

--- On Wed, 11/17/10, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>  
Subject: (no subject)  
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com  
Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2010, 3:07 PM

Dear John

I was looking for something else and a photocopy of a bank note size item was in the pile. It was an unsigned and undated Salem Bank multi-denominational note from Newburyport. The denominations were ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, THIRTY DOLLARS (also figure 30), and figure 7. The memo with the item said it was on display in my museum. I asked my curator to look at the original and he said it was not there. He had looked in my counterfeit paper money display case and my paper money development display case. I worried all night and by the next morning I realized in due course that it was prepared by Jacob Perkins to demonstrate his siderography invention and must be quite rare. Then I realized that when I put it into a display case in the museum I knew nothing about siderography and wondered what I thought it was then. I concluded that I had thought it was an error. So I looked in my error display and there it was.



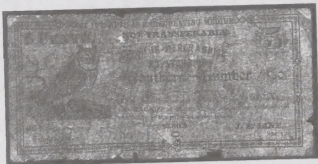
I determined that you would know all about such items and determined to ask you what unusual American Jacob Perkins American items you had. I knew you must have most of the bank notes he prepared, but I wondered what odd ball items you had of his. I think they must be of great importance and wondered if they have ever been written up.

I have recovered about 95% from breaking my vertebra in my fall in March but as you may know it was the worst ordeal I have ever had. Do not fall or let your wife fall. I use a roller steadily npw and do not rely on a cane as I used to. I hope my age has not crushed my ability to do numismatic research and writing but time will tell. I presume you received my latest off print

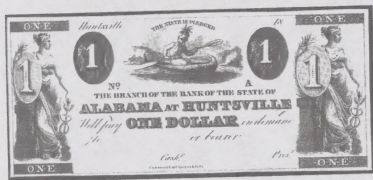
My best to you and yours.

Eric

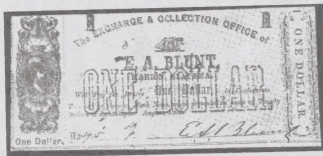
## Alabama



- 1650 **AL. Gadsden.** Southern Lumber Co. 5¢ 1880's. This note is completely unlisted in the Rosene book. Interesting owl vignette, left with a very light red back. A distinctive note from an unusual scrip note issuing period. G-VG. (\$200-300)



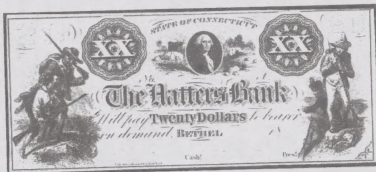
- 1651 **AL. Huntsville.** Branch Bank of the State of Alabama at Huntsville. \$1. 1830's. (AL-5 Unlisted). **Proof** on India paper mounted on card. A completely unlisted denomination with a vignette of a young Indian in a canoe that is seldom seen. At the right and left are matching vignettes of a female holding caduceus. UBSh. **Choice Uncirculated.** (\$500-750)



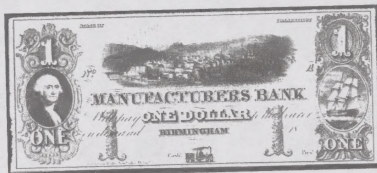
- 1652 **AL. Marion.** E. A. Blunt. \$1. August 1862. (R-174 1A). No.3915. Blue ink on light blue paper, with red protector "ONE DOLLAR". Unlisted denomination on a known issuer. Very rare. Very choice grade for this type of scrip note on fairly fragile paper. VF, and very attractive. (\$300-450)

Ex. Lyn Knight sale - November 1993, lot 157.

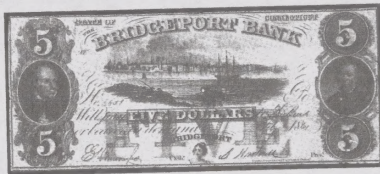
## Connecticut



- 1653 **CT. Bethel.** Hatters Bank. \$20. 1850's. (CT-10 G22). **Proof** on India paper mounted on card. Great name for this Connecticut bank! A lovely card proof with two different vignettes of Revolutionary War soldiers at each end, Washington medallion portrait in the top center. Stamped on the back by the ABN. BA. **Uncirculated.** (\$400-600)



- 1654 **CT. Birmingham.** Manufacturers Bank. \$1. Late 1840's-early 1850's. (CT-15 G2 SENC). **Proof** on India paper. A superb proof with a custom vignette of the town view off the river. At the left is Washington and at the right is a ship. Great style and rarity as there were only two of these notes in the ABN sale in 1990. DH. **Choice Uncirculated.** (\$300-500)



- 1655 **CT. Bridgeport.** Bridgeport Bank. \$5. Feb. 1, 1861. (CT-25 G92b). No.6651. **Haxby Plate Note.** A custom vignette of the Bridgeport Harbor graces this Haxby Plate Note specimen, at the left is Clay and the right is Taylor; red protector "FIVE" at the bottom center. This is a fully issued note from a bank that is rarely seen in this format. TC. F-VF, a few small body holes, one in the vignette. (\$600-900)

Ex. Western Reserve Historical Society Sale - Part of Lot 186.

carts of books over a two-day period. Bob's article contains a partial list of the material.

*E-Sylum*

2/4/06

#### GEORGE FULD ON THE BAKER LIBRARY SCOVILL ARCHIVES

George Fuld writes: "I appreciate Dick Johnson's updates on the Scovill story. Some ten years ago I spent two full days at the Baker library looking over the Scovill archives. I was most disappointed in what I found - there was very little if any information on early tokens or medals. I did find the mintage on a rare New Orleans token, some several thousand (about 5 or 6 now known) I did this for the ANS Coinage of the Americas Conference on Civil War cents in the late nineties. There was little to help the story."

[Many thanks to George as well for sharing his recollections with us. Stay tuned for future notes about the Hopkins and Picker per last week's request. -Editor]

#### ROCHESTER CLUB GOES ELECTRONIC

Scott Fybush, editor, RNA News writes: "Just a quick note to let you - and your readers - know that the Rochester (NY) Numismatic Association's "RNA News" has made the leap into electronic distribution. Our monthly newsletter is now available as a PDF at our club website, [www.the-rna.com](http://www.the-rna.com), and we're delighted to be able to share it with the rest of the numismatic world.

This month's issue celebrates National Coin Week, with the (remarkable, if I do say so) results of our junior club's poster competition, as well as a cautionary tale about what happens when you complain to the local newspaper about those ads they run for overpriced junk coins.

We have archives available back to the beginning of 2006, and will soon be supplementing those with issues going back to the relaunch of our newsletter in its current form in 2002.

Thanks again for all your hard work on The E-Sylum. I look forward to it every Sunday!"

#### ANTI-COUNTERFEITING PATENT INFORMATION SOUGHT

Dave Bowers writes: "In connection with a book I am writing I desire to correspond with anyone who has information regarding some of the more obscure patents and processes regarding anti-counterfeiting. I do not need the Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson "green tint" of 1857, or the National patent of 1860, or any of Perkins' patents, or Lyman's or Seropyan's patent.

I would like to learn more about the Congreve Patent Check Plate (used in the USA by New England Bank Note Co., perhaps related to Sir Wm. Congreve of English bank note renown), Star's patent, Desopyn's patent, Atwater's patent, and any related patents. Many of these arose in the 1850s when there was a scare about photographic counterfeits of bank notes.